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*The history and antiquities of the  
parish of Mid-Calder*

Hardy Bertram M'Call, McCall (Hardy Bertram)



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MS. 11





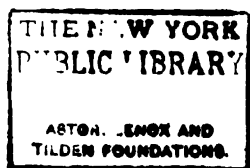


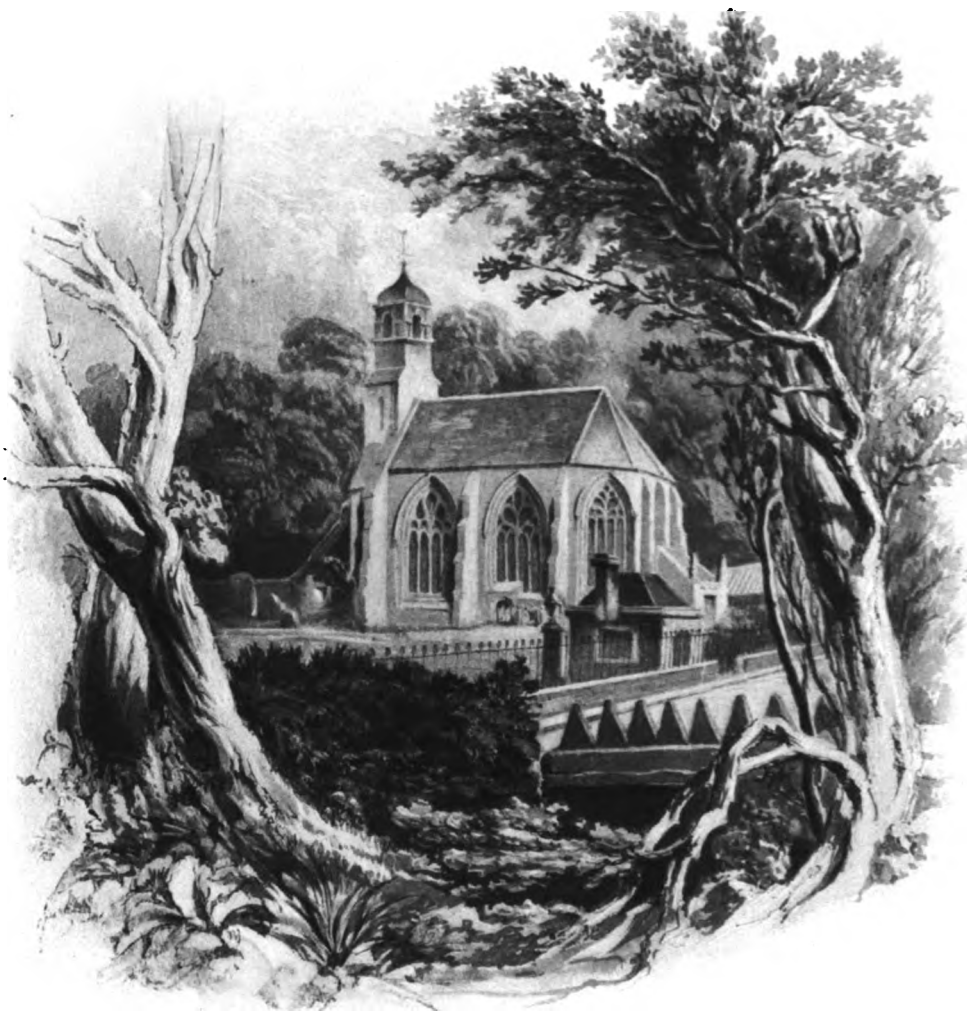


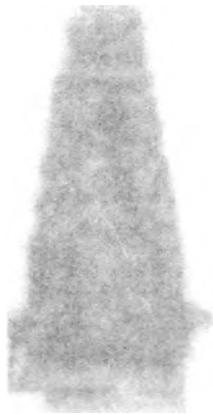
# THE PARISH OF MID-CALDER

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1.0



THE  
HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES  
OF THE  
PARISH OF MID-CALDER

WITH SOME ACCOUNT OF  
THE RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF TORPHICHEN  
FOUNDED UPON RECORD

BY  
HARDY BERTRAM M'CALL, F.S.A.  
AUTHOR OF "SOME OLD FAMILIES" ETC.

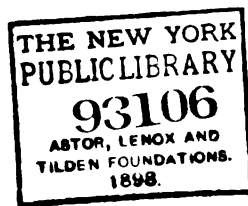


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ASTOR LENOX  
TILDEN  
FOUNDATIONS

To  
The Parishioners of Mid-Calder  
This Volume  
is  
Respectfully Dedicated



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## Introductory Observations

"The treasures of antiquity, laid up in old historic rolls, I opened."—BEAUMONT.

EVERY one acknowledges the value and usefulness of history. Most people like to know something more than the mere passing events of the day or the hour. The fireside tale of other days—the old man's reminiscences—and the story of the land which gave us birth, possess a certain fascination for most of us. But if this feeling be a proper and a right one, it must be allowed that the means of gratifying it have been of too restricted a nature. It is not enough for us to read the history of kings and of courts, of wars and national convulsions; the interest which we feel and take in our own immediate surroundings demands information of a more special and local kind. We desire to know concerning ordinary mortals like ourselves, how they lived and thought in olden times; what was the condition of the people at large? In the arena of human life what part did our predecessors play amid the shifting scenes of the great drama of our country's history? These are questions which are seldom answered—with any approach to accuracy, at all events. For it is remarkable that whilst we like to feel with regard to general or national history that our information rests upon respectable authority, we are often satisfied with the veriest old wives' stories in relation to matters of purely local interest. Now, this surely ought not to be the case. If the past have any lessons for us at all, its teachings are then most potential when conveyed through the medium of what lies nearest to us. The associations of our immediate environment, especially in early life, exercise a certain influence upon our thoughts and characters; consciously or unconsciously they are our constant companions and monitors. How

important then that they should teach us that which is true, and only that which is true !

It was some such reflections as these which gave birth to a desire on my part to know something of the past life of the parish of Mid-Calder. And in offering the results of my studies to my fellow-parishioners, I would like, in the first place, to say something regarding the sources whence the information is derived. It may be well to do this in some detail, both as indicating the materials which exist for the elucidation of authentic local history, and also to record for the information of future investigators the precise ground which has been already traversed.

The Heritors, without exception, have opened their charter chests to me, and from their title deeds and other papers much has been gleaned. Local evidence and reminiscence has been called into requisition, but it will be obvious that this can extend only for the past fifty or one hundred years at most, and even during that period it requires verification and correction from documentary sources. A general search has been made through printed literature which could be supposed anywhere likely to bear upon the subject ; but by far the richest quarry of information has been original records—the resources of which, in relation to the matter in hand, have never before been opened up. Besides numerous other authorities, casually or partially examined, the following have been systematically searched for the periods indicated :—

Register of Baptisms, &c., Midcalder . . .	1604—1800
Register of Kirk-Session of Midcalder . . .	1604—1800
Proceedings of the Baron Court of Calder . . .	1583—1601
Minutes of the Heritors' Proceedings . . .	1782—1815
Register of Testaments for Edinburgh . . .	1514—1750
Particular Register of Seisins for the Lothians . . .	1603—1880
Retours of Services of Heirs in Scotland . . .	1600—1800
Register of the Great Seal (Scotland) . . .	1306—1620
Register of the Privy Council of Scotland . . .	1545—1616
Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland . . .	1124—1707
Acts of the Lords of Council in Civil Causes . . .	1478—1495
Acts of the Lords Auditors . . .	1466—1494

The Rotuli Scotiæ . . . . .	1291—1516
The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland . . . . .	1264—1522
Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer . . . . .	1473—1498
Particular Register of Hornings and Inhibitions, etc. etc.	

The claim, therefore, put forward by the title-page, that the work is "founded upon record," is in no sense an illusory one. I have steadily resisted all material, however tempting, which cannot be vouched for by proper documentary evidence. The earliest original writing relating to our parish is a grant of the church of Calder Comitis to the Monks of Dunfermline about the year 1160; and notices of the district are sufficiently meagre for fully two hundred years thereafter. It is not until the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries that the records become truly picturesque of life and manners in the parish. The reader will observe that I have not hesitated to descend to matters of comparatively trivial import; many of the extracts from the Session's and other Registers may appear to be very unimportant in themselves, but they present, nevertheless, when taken together, a picture of the parish life in olden days which could not otherwise be obtained. It is not without considerable thought and hesitation that I have decided to forego any system of direct reference to authorities by footnotes or otherwise. The work does not pretend to the character of scientific or critical history, and to load its pages with references would afford no assistance to the general reader, as a set-off to the embarrassment occasioned by the constant breaks in the continuity of the narrative. The allusions, also, in the text itself are for the most part so pointed as to render special reference unnecessary and superfluous. When we meet, for example, with the statement that Mr Peter Kinloch, of Alderston, "died on 17th September 1621, nominating Mr Patrick Kinloch, his eldest son, his only executor," no one who possesses the most superficial acquaintance with the records will have any difficulty in turning to the Register of Testaments to verify this fact. Similarly with the Record of Seisins, which forms the groundwork of Chapter III., the references could scarcely be more manifest though they were directly alluded to; whilst the quotations from the local registers and that of the Privy Council also announce themselves. With a view to greater precision in this matter, somewhat copious extracts

have been given in the actual words of the record—a system which I have adopted also, as a foil to the constant temptation to generalise upon narrow and insufficient grounds.

For the rest, there seems little which calls for special explanation in the plan or scope of the work. It may very reasonably be objected that the first chapter is of somewhat too promiscuous a nature; it consists indeed of such miscellaneous facts as did not fall naturally into the classification proposed for the later portions of the work. The title of "Esquire" due to the landed proprietors and others has been omitted merely as a matter of convenience and uniformity; it will be understood that the prefix "Mr" in ancient documents relates always and exclusively to University graduates, and with few exceptions it may be said that the designation denotes a minister, advocate, or writer.

My thanks are heartily offered to Thomas Dickson, Esq., LL.D., Curator of the Historical Department of H.M. General Register House, not only for the facilities afforded for the examination of the records, but also for the advantage of his own private store of learning, which I have largely availed myself of. Acknowledgment is also due to Stair Agnew, Esq., C.B., Registrar-General, and James Stevens, Esq., Heritors and Session Clerk, Mid-Calder, for placing at my disposal the public and other registers in their custody; to John Scott, Esq., C.B., for permission to make use of the curious MS. entitled, "Proceedings of the Baron Court of Calder Comitibus"; and to the Faculty of Advocates for the privilege of the use of their library. I am indebted to Thomas Ross, Esq., joint author of *The Castellated and Domestic Architecture of Scotland*, for the plan of Calder House and the drawing of the Church Steeple, as also for advice and assistance with the architectural observations on the Church and Calder House; to the Rev. Walter Macleod for assistance in searching records and deciphering ancient documents; to the late Rev. Andrew Duncan for help with the history of the United Presbyterian Congregation; and to Lord Torphichen for various favours—not the least of which is the permission to reproduce the beautiful drawing of the old church which forms the Frontispiece to the present volume. It is interesting to observe that it is to local talent that we owe this drawing, William Penny, the artist, being a native of and

resident in Mid-Calder village, where he died on 18th January 1867, in his 80th year.

The other illustrations to the work have all been engraved from photographs or sketches prepared under my own supervision; and whilst in point of artistic treatment they can speak for themselves, I think I may venture to claim for them faithfulness of topographical detail.

It would be superfluous for me to say that I have exercised the greatest care in dealing with a very large mass of material, to ensure accuracy, and if any errors have crept in I accept the full blame, and will be glad to have my attention called to them. On this subject, I might say with reference to place names, that where one has only the faded ink and crabbed handwriting of an ancient deed as a guide, mistakes are very easily made—mistakes, too, which appear quite inexcusable to those who are perfectly acquainted with the locality. It would therefore be hardly fair that any such slip should be taken as a *test*—since it might be an entirely fallacious one—of the general accuracy of the work.

It will certainly be obvious to all who have any experience of this kind of work that, limitations being once determined of the exact ground to be covered by the investigation, it was impossible to wander promiscuously beyond them; and hence it is that any allusions to families or properties in adjacent parishes—however interesting in themselves—are of incidental nature only. I thought at one time of taking as my subject the “Barony of Calder,” which would have embraced most of West Calder as well as portions of Livingston and Uphall parishes. But difficulties would have arisen in consequence of the ever fluctuating extent and dimensions of the barony at various epochs; and I have adopted a modern division also in the hope that some abler pen than mine may be found to present us with historical accounts of the neighbouring and other parishes.

Let me conclude these remarks as I began, by emphasising and insisting upon the great value of authentic local history. However imperfectly I myself may have realised the ideal in this matter, it is nevertheless true that a well-digested account of every parish in Scotland, carefully compiled from record, would add a richness and colouring to our national history such as it can never otherwise acquire. The great



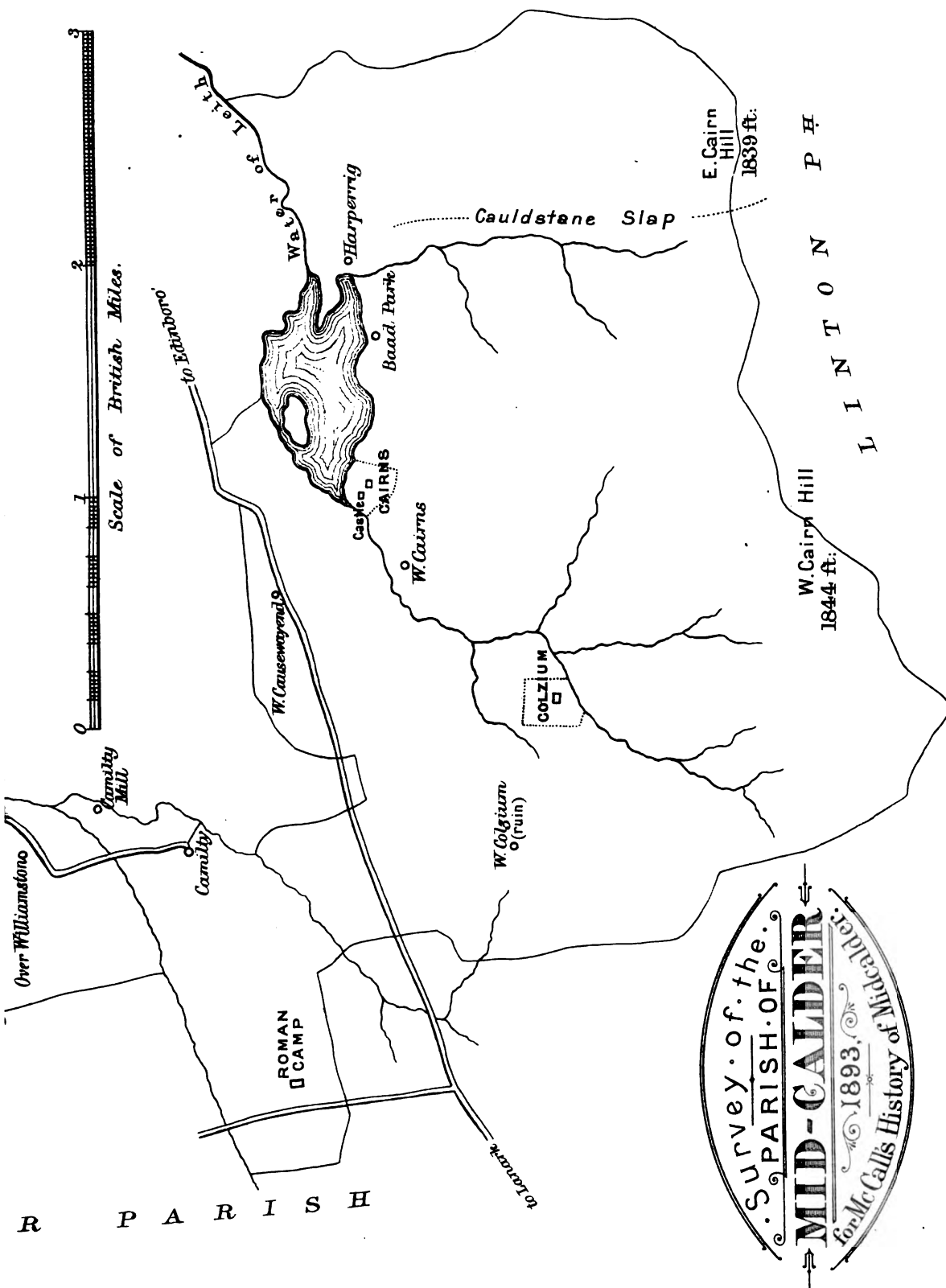
public movements of the times are presented incidentally in such undertakings, and gain in vividness and reality when looked at from the local standpoint. The imagination can better grasp the phenomena of history when these are identified with particular localities: King Charles' oak—the castles which have sheltered Queen Mary—the scenes of the Covenanters' worship—these things have exercised a deeper influence over mankind than any abstract knowledge of revolving dynasties or national convulsions.

H. B. M'CALL.

CHARLESFIELD HOUSE,  
MID-CALDER, *February 1894.*









## CHAPTER I.

# The Parish

Topographical and Physical Details—Prehistoric and Roman Remains—  
Civil History and Institutions.

THE parish which engages our attention is situated in the western district of the county of Edinburgh, at a distance of twelve to fifteen miles from the metropolis. Its extent embraces an area of 12,294 acres, which the wisdom of our forefathers has seen fit to dispose in a very irregular manner as regards shape, the parish being nine miles long and about four miles broad near its northern and southern extremities, whilst at its centre, on the farm of Blackhall, the breadth of the parish is not more than 500 yards. Equally capricious, Nature has endowed us with widely differing altitudes and consequent variety of climate and other characteristics, in different parts of the parish. In the southern district, where it marches with the county of Peebles, the ground rises to the summit of the Cairn hills, 1840 feet above sea level, whence it declines by a series of undulating waves to the Water of Almond, where the altitude is 300 feet only. On the northern bank of this river the ground again commences to ascend towards the upland ridge of Linlithgowshire, and a height of 500 feet is attained on the lands of Howden. The principal rivers or waters intersecting the parish are the Almond, the Linhouse Water, and the Murieston Water, which are several miles apart on their entrance into the parish, but unite beside the village of Mid-Calder by the two last mingling their waters with the Almond; in addition to these there are numerous smaller streams all having a general direction from S.W. to N.E. The Water of Leith takes its rise upon our hills, though its course in this parish was of inconsiderable

moment prior to 1845. In that year a compensation reservoir was constructed upon the lands of Cairns and Harperrig, for the purpose of equalising the flood waters for the use of the mills and factories on this important stream. Although there are extensive plantations of recent growth, the Calder Wood is the only natural copsewood in the parish, and it too has been greatly reduced in size, even within the memory of living persons. The tradition of its having extended some five or six miles in a southerly direction is preserved in the following popular rhyme :—

“ Calder Wood was fair to see,  
When it went to Camilty ;  
Calder Wood was fairer still  
When it went to Crosswood-hill.”

In the light of these physical facts and certain other significant circumstances, we incline to adopt that etymology of the word “Calder” which refers the origin of the term to the two Celtic words *Coil* and *dour*, signifying respectively wood and water. If this be true, the district under consideration has with much propriety been denominated Cal-der, many of the views which the combination of wood and water present being romantic, grand, and delightful.

Within the parish are several of those barrows or tumuli which during all historic times have called forth the speculations of antiquaries and persons studiously inclined, but which, like the pyramids of Egypt, have outlived the knowledge of the names of their founders, or even of the purpose for which they were constructed. They are supposed to have been repositories of the dead, but at what period they were raised it is quite impossible even to conjecture. Four of these barrows may still be seen, although somewhat effaced by the operations of the plough, near to the bank of the Almond on the lands of Nether Alderston ; but the most remarkable tumulus is a large conical eminence which stands on the north side of Calder village, and has received the name of “Cunnigar.” This designation appears to be derived from Celtic, and to denote a keeper or warren of the conies, *i.e.* rabbits. Many stone coffins have at various times been dug up near the banks of the Almond, not only as it runs through this parish, but in all its course till it unites with the Firth

of Forth at Cramond. Some of these were hewn out of a solid piece of stone, with closely fitting covers, and the presence within them of fragments of a skull and other human remains leaves no doubt as to their having been sepulchres; others were more rudely constructed of flat stones placed on edge for the sides, and with covers formed also of several flat stones. In one of these cists a piece of iron somewhat resembling the head of a battle axe was discovered in 1831. Fig. 1 represents a small leaf-shaped blade recently found on the lands of West Cairns,—it measures four inches in length, and  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. across the widest part of the cusp, and it is still sharp on either edge and at the point. The shank end is perforated to admit of a rivet uniting it to a short wooden handle. The metal of which it is made is found to consist of seven parts of copper and two of tin; and on its being exhibited to the authorities of the National

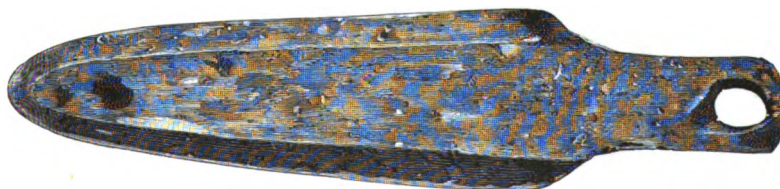


Fig. 1.—Bronze implement found at West Cairns.

Museum of Antiquities, it was by them pronounced to belong to the later period of the "bronze age," which is understood to mean two or three centuries before the Christian era.

On the summit of an eminence called Castle Greg, upon the farm of Camilty, and near to the passage of the ridge which separates Lothian from Clydesdale, are the remains of a rectangular camp or station supposed to have been constructed during one of the Roman invasions of Scotland. There are few subjects connected with antiquity which are more shrouded in mystery than all which relates to the hill forts and defensible camps which crown the summits of so many of our hills. We talk of them with great assurance as "Roman Camps," and as speculative inference has usually proved more attractive to the archæologist than the laborious storing up of exact knowledge, these remains have come in for a large share of attention. Personally, we must own to being sceptical upon the subject to a degree which would doubt whether one-half of the



so-called Roman encampments and causeways were not constructed fully a thousand years subsequent to Agricola's departure from Britain! This, we know, is rank heresy; but we mean not to disparage the claims of the camp at Castle Greg, where many coins and other articles of Roman workmanship are said to have been dug up from time to time, but rather to emphasize its value, if it can be shown to be a Roman work, in its bearing upon the study of these hill forts in general. The camp differs from most rectilinear forts, which are usually defended by a single vallum, in having a double line of intrenchment with two distinct ramparts. In the centre

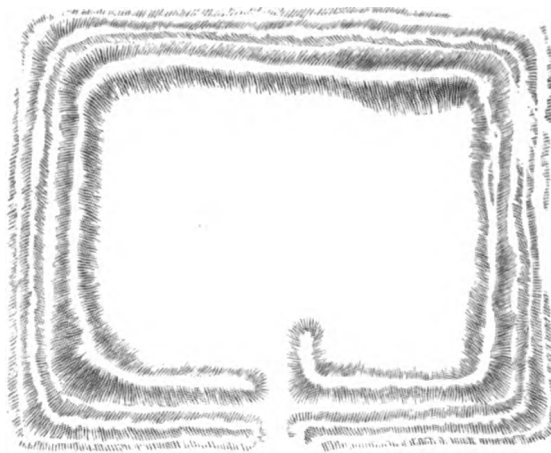


Fig. 2.—Ancient Camp at Castle Greg.

of the eastern side is the only gateway or opening for entrance into the inclosure. The writer in the Statistical Account has surely made a mistake in giving the measurements as between 500 and 600 feet in length and breadth. Measured from summit to summit of the inner and higher rampart the dimensions are 180 feet long and 140 feet broad; whilst the extent of the outer circumvallations does not exceed 260 feet and 220 feet in length and breadth respectively. The camp is situated with its longer walls running N.N.W. and S.S.E., the entrance being in the eastern side. A round hollow near the centre of the inclosure, called by the common people the Well, but supposed to have been the foundation of a flag-staff, was excavated about the year 1830, when under a

great stone was found a considerable number of Roman coins, bearing the effigies of the Emperors Vespasian, Domitian, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, and Marcus Aurelius,—indicating a date about A.D. 170.

A portion of these coins was disposed of by the finders to a goldsmith in Edinburgh, but the remainder came into the hands of the proprietor of the lands, Mr Young of Harburn, by whom a complete set of the coins was presented to King Charles X. of France, who with his son visited Mr Young at Harburn House in 1832. About the same period, another find of Roman coins was made by some labourers in casting a ditch near Crosswood-burn, a mile and a half to the west of



Fig. 3.—Roman denarii found at Castle Greg.

this camp, in the border of the neighbouring parish of West Calder. These were presented by Mr Steel of Crosswood-hill to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Further investigation at the camp was prosecuted in 1846, by the late Mr Cochrane of Harburn, whose researches were rewarded by the discovery of some fragments of pottery, pronounced at the time to be of Roman manufacture. We here give an illustration of several of the coins before alluded to, but it must be borne in mind in estimating the value of their evidence, that Roman coins were carried all over the civilised world. They are found in great numbers both in Ireland and Scandinavia, where the Romans certainly never penetrated. The pottery affords better evidence of their presence at Castle Greg, and we think that further excavation should be made at the camp with a view

to ascertaining, if possible, whether other examples of Roman manufacture exist there. Several stone coffins or cists were at a somewhat later period discovered by Mr Cochrane in a field near Harburn-head, a little more than a mile north of the camp. "Castelgreg" is mentioned in a charter of lands in the barony of Calder by James IV., in the year 1512. Some have considered the situation to have been a pastoral station, and have thus sought to account for the name, as derived from the Latin *Castellum Gregis*, or "Watch tower of the flocks"; but this is, of course, mere conjecture. In the year 1864, during the construction of the Cleland branch of the Caledonian Railway, a number of Roman coins, it is said, were found in Calder Wood, near to the Calder House Quarry, but they do not appear to have been preserved.

In the Middle Ages the Calder district was debateable land, and, prior to the seventh century, appears to have been a Pictish possession on the border of the Saxon kingdom of Northumbria. But, according to the "venerable" Bede, Aeduin, King of Northumbria, about the year 610 A.D., pushed his power to the farther side of Lothian, as far as the river Avon; so that if this be true, we are to conclude that the parish was at that time under the dominion of the Saxon Heptarchy, and perhaps also at a later period of a united England.

When the light of certain record first sheds its intermittent rays upon the locality, the extensive region of Calder was divided into two manors, the one called Calder-Comitis or Earl's Calder, from the circumstance of its being the heritage of the Earls or Thanes of Fife, and the other denominated Easter-Calder or Calder-Clere, apparently so named from Rudolph de Clere, who had a grant of the manor from Malcolm IV., *anno* 1153-1165. This manor of Calder Clere became forfeited during the Succession War, and was granted by Robert Bruce to James Douglas, ancestor of the Earl of Morton, in 1306. But it is the barony of Earls Calder, which embraced the whole of the modern parishes of Mid and West Calder at least, that engages our attention.

About the middle of the twelfth century, which was the great transition century in Scotland, this extensive region was in the possession of the Earls of Fife; there are grants of certain lands and ecclesiastical patronage in Calder Comitis to the monks of Dunfermline made by Duncan, Earl

of Fife, and Ela, his countess, which grants were confirmed by Malcolm IV. previous to 1160. Another Earl Duncan was one of the Scottish nobles who agreed to the convention made by William the Lion with Henry II. of England at Falaise, *anno* 1174; and from him is descended Duncan, Earl of Fife in 1286, who, after the death of Alexander III., was chosen one of the Regents of the kingdom. He was assassinated 25th September 1288 by Sir Richard Abernethy and Sir Walter Percy; and after his death, the charge of Calder Comitatus, with the custody of the minor heir, was assigned to Sir William Bisset, Kt., the appointment being confirmed by Edward I. before 1292. Bisset had set the lands in ferme or tack to William, Bishop of St Andrews, for the yearly payment of £40; but in 1294, there is a letter of King Edward, as overlord of Scotland, to Walter de Cambhou, Keeper of the county of Fife, saying: As his dear friend the Bishop of Glasgow has begged of him the land of Cawdor in the county [*i.e.*, Earldom] of Fife, until the majority of the heir thereto, the said Walter is commanded to deliver the same at its true value, under burden of £40 yearly to William Bisset, Kt.—by way of compensation for his resigning the appointment. Dated at Westminster, 1st October 1294. On 17th May 1295 there is another letter from the King to John de Langetoune, his chancellor, which says that having by letters under the Great Seal already committed to Robert, Bishop of Glasgow, the manor of Caledore Comitatus, till the majority of the heir of Duncan, Earl of Fife, the said Bishop is further to have advowson of churches, and all other escheats omitted in the grant. Walter de Camehou, styled Keeper of Fife, is allowed 38s. 4d. for “expenses at Calder for twelve days after Epiphany, 1295, to let the land delivered to the Bishop of Glasgow by the King’s precept.” The youthful Earl of Fife, still under age, was slain at the battle of Falkirk in 1298, leaving an infant son, whom Robert Bruce afterwards restored to his rights in Calder Comitatus. There is a charter by this monarch of the barony of Calder in the county of Edinburgh and other baronies to Duncan, Earl of Fyf, undated, but between the years 1320 and 1326. His name also appears in the list of barons assembled at the Parliament held at Aberbrothock 6th April 1320, and he was the first amongst the earls who on that occasion signed the letter to the Pope asserting the independence of Scotland. Then, in Lord Torphichen’s

charter chest there is a charter by Duncan, Earl of Fyfe, confirming to Dame Beatrise, spouse of the deceased Archibald of Douglas, and to John Douglas, her son and heir, all his barony of Wester Calder, to be held by them as freely as the Earl or his predecessors held the same of the King of Scotland, with forests, advocation of churches, wards, reliefs, marriages, meadows, etc., with privilege of homage and service of free tenants, bonds and bondages, fines and forfeitures, mills and multures, etc. ; rendering yearly therefor a pair of gilt spurs at the feast of pentecost, if asked only. Sealed with the said Earl's seal at Falcland at the period of the siege of Falkland Castle [February 1337]. John of Douglas, who thus became lord of Calder, according to Wyntoun died "beyond the sea" before 1342; and he was succeeded by his brother William, who became first Earl of Douglas. By this nobleman his whole barony of Westir Caldore was bestowed upon his well-beloved esquire James of Sandilands, together with the whole toun of Bengoure in the county of Edynburgh, with all liberties, etc., in free marriage with his sister Eleanor Brys, Countess of Carrick, and their heirs. The date of this transaction is between 1346 and 1350; and the barony has ever since regularly descended in the Sandilands family. Sir James was chosen to be one of the attendants on his sovereign David II. when that monarch was detained a prisoner in England; and his son and successor, in the year 1383, espoused a daughter of King Robert II. Schir James de Sandylandis sat in Parliament as Baron of Calder Comitis in 1487, and John Sandilands of Calder appears in the list of Parliamentary barons in 1560.

We meet with no incident of special importance connecting the parish with what may properly be called the public affairs of the nation until the period of the Reformation, in which great change the heads of the family of Calder played a somewhat prominent part. John Knox had his residence for some time at Calder House, as he himself informs us in his "Historie," in the spring of 1556, and, besides administering the Holy Sacrament to Sir James Sandilands' household and guests, he preached almost daily during his visit here, either in the church or market-place of the village, the site of his open-air pulpit being traditionally marked by the position of a huge plane-tree at the back of the churchyard. Amongst those who attended upon his sermons in Calder were three young noblemen who made a great figure in the public transactions which followed, namely,

Archibald, Lord Lorne, afterwards Earl of Argyll ; John, Lord Erskine, who succeeded to the Earldom of Mar, and commanded the Castle of Edinburgh during the civil dissensions which ensued between the Queen Regent and the Protestant party ; and Lord James Stewart, better known as the Regent Murray, who subsequently had frequent recourse to the Baron of Calder for counsel and assistance in transactions of national moment. After the establishment of Protestantism, considerable apprehension seems to have been entertained by James's government of an attack to be made upon them by "papistis," and repeated orders were issued to the barons to see that every vassal was armed as required by law, and to encourage musters and wappinschaws. Wappinschawing, as the word implies, was a shewing of weapons, or an exhibition of arms, according to the rank of each individual, made at certain times in every barony or district. In the proceedings of the Baron Court of Calder-Comitis we find the following Act :—

1586, *April* 19—The quhilk day it is statut and ordanit be the tutor and bailie foir-said, with auiss of the haill tennents of the baronie heir present, that the ordinance eftir following be keeipit and observit in all tymes coming. That is to say That all men of the said barony, according to their qualiteis, estait and conditioun, be sufficientlie provydit of horse, armor and servandis to attend upoun the Laird and his tutor in our souerane Lordis service, when thay salbe chargit in quhatsumeuir oistis or raids, or otherwyse vsit and wont ; as alswa to be readdie to follow the fray when as at ony tyme it sal happin, conform to the former act maid thairanent, in all gudlie diligence, and to mak thair musturis and wappinschawingis bodin in feir of weir, on horsebak and on futt, ilkman efferand to his estait vpoun the hill of Calder, to the tutor or commissionar to be appoyntit be him to resauie the samyn the fourt day of August nixt to cum at ten hours befoir none, ilkman under the panis of Ten pundis to be takin of ilk ane that falzeis. And that nane of the baronie tak upoun hand to haue or vse ony borrowit geir at the saidis musturis and wappinschawing, under the paine foresaid, and escheiting of the said borrowit geir : That is to say ilk persoun to be boddin as followis to witt—\*

Mr. Petir Kinloch in Owir Awdinstoun  
 Johnne Muirheid in Nayther Awdinstoun  
 James tennent of Lynhous  
 John Stevinsoun, zoungar of Hirdmanschiels

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\* The list of names is lengthy, embracing the tenants of the whole barony ; we have therefore omitted many which do not relate to this parish. The act is printed as above and with the names in full in *Analecta Scotica*, I. 395.

Joseph Dowglas of Pumpherstoun  
 James tennent of Cairnis  
 Martyne Ker in Eistir Colzame  
 Thomas Cant of Harperrig  
 James Coichran of Breidschall

*The above to have a horse, with Jak-speir, steilbonat, plaitsevis, sword and pistolet.*

James tennent portionar of Owir Williamstoun  
 The relict & airis of vmqle Jon Williamsoun of the Bent  
 Archibald Williamsoun portionar of Nayther Williamstoun  
 John Williamsoun ane other portioner thereof  
 William farar in Wodheid and occupier of a part of Nayther Williamstoun  
 pertaining to the Lady Calder  
 John Sandelands of Muirisdys  
 William Douglas of Baddis  
 Johnne Leirmont of Ower Craig  
 Alexander Gray of Brigend

*Takkismen on hors bak*

Gawin Hammiltoun in the Grange  
 Andro Aikman in Zallowstrud  
 Johnne Aikman in Eistir Dryshelrig  
 Wm. Aikman in Sandiegait  
 Johnne Ker in Camaltie  
 James Dowglas in Nayther Howden  
 Robert Dowglas in Owir Howden  
 James Rewll there  
 Johnne Tennent in Cockrig  
 James Aikman in Nayr Williamsoun  
 Thomas Levingstoun  
 Johnne Walker  
 Johnne bego  
 William Loche  
 Jon Sandelandis in Nayther Craig  
 George Glasgw in Mureistoun  
 Johnne Aikman in Westir Dryschilrig

} in Howatstoun

Two years after the date of this Act, James Sandilands, tutor of Calder, was chosen capitaine of ane hundreth licht horsmen raised in consequence of the approcheing of strangearis towardis this Isle for invasioun of the

professouris of the trew and christeane religioun, 19th August 1588. In the year 1600 Sir Michael Balfour of Burley made a visitation in the district to see that all proprietors maintained warlike equipments "effeirand to thair rankis," on which occasion James Tennent of Cairns was ordered to buy a stand of footman's arms.

Considering the state of the country at this period, it is not surprising to hear of deeds of violence. On 9th August 1600 a cattle-raid was made by the Armstrongs and Elliots upon the lands of Cairns, when the Tweeddale men succeeded in carrying off fourscore oxen and some horses, having slain and dismembered divers of His Majesty's good subjects in the encounter. William Borthwick, brother of the Lord Borthwick, on 7th May 1601, came with his accomplices to the lands of Howden, wounded the ploughmen and slew two of their horses, so that they dared not labour the lands; and about the same period Patrick Hamilton, of the Peel of Livingston, who for some time had been the terror of the country side, accompanied by sixteen armed confederates, made a warlike demonstration on the lands of Charlesfield, broke up the doors and windows with great joists, wounded several servants, and spuilied and destroyed all the corns. Three years later there are indications of a raid upon the village by the laird of Bradshaw, which was considered of sufficient importance to be mentioned before the Privy Council, and in June 1604 John Bailie of Braidschaw was required to find caution in £1000, that he should not harm Johne Broun in Calder, Mr Johne Broun there, Robert Tennent, James Mure, James Wallace there, James Aikman in Dreschilrig, Thomas Smith in the Mains of Calder, nor others. In 1616 complaint was made by Johnne Wricht at the Brigend of Calder, that on the 5th October in that year, William Douglas of Pumpherston, who had conceived a deadlie hatred for him, came to his house disguised and under cloud of night, struck him down with a baton, and "trampit his wyff and bairnis under his feitt!"

The party of the Earl of Bothwell found refuge in the deserted region of Calder Moor, after that ambitious nobleman's second attempt to secure the person of the King at Falkland, 29th June 1592. "Immediatlie after the fray," writes an old diarist, "Bothwell and his men



came over the water, and there were eighteen of them taken in Calder Muir and in other parts near Calder, lying sleeping for want of rest and entertainment; and immediately after their taking they were brought to Edinburgh, and [five of them] hangit." At the period of the Civil War between King Charles and the Parliament, the following were appointed at the several dates to act on the Committee of Warre, on the parliamentary side: William Sandilands, tutor of Calder in 1643 and 1644; Sir Joseph Douglas of Pumpherstoun 1646 and 1647; Lord Torphichen 1647; the Lairds of Calderhall and of Selms, and Master Laurence Scot of Harperrig appointed 26th March 1647. The minister of Mid-Calder, Mr Hew Kennedy, also took a somewhat prominent part against the Royal interest. In the month of March 1645, £100, 8s. was collected in the parish "to buy cloathes to the souldiers of my Lord Callenderis regiment;" and shortly thereafter certain gentlemen were enjoined to take an account of the "sensibill personis" within the parish, and also what arms could be furnished.

1645, *July 13*—The sessioun has and do ordain all men within the parochie abowe twell zeirs of age to be on Alderstoun Muire on Wednesday nixt, and ordains twa elders in ilk quarter to give them adverteisment for y<sup>t</sup> effect with certificatioun y<sup>t</sup> those y<sup>t</sup> comis not sall be those y<sup>t</sup> shall go out to this present expeditioun.

Frequent intimation is made against the resett of "runawayis from ye collours;" and on 9th July 1646, the minister declared that if any women in the parish had their husbands killed in the public service, they should be helped. The Session knows of none.

1646, *March 19*—Anent compliyanace w<sup>t</sup> the enemy, receiving of protectiouns and giving of y<sup>e</sup> moneys, My Lord Torphichen declaired he was frie yrof.

*Sept. 6*—This day Jamis Sandilands, bailze, sworne, deponit he never procured a protectioun from Jamis Grahme nor from no oyr of that factioun. Mr Jamis Kynloch [of Alderston] deponed the lyk. The wholle Elderis deponed the lyk—Ordanis to summond Jone Muirheid of Lynhous.

The Laird of Linhouse appears to have favoured the Royalist cause, and was under suspicion, at all events, of being a member of the Duke of Hamilton's Committee in 1648.

Montrose passed through Calder on his way from Kilsyth to Philliphauch, as we are informed in the Acts of the Parliament in relation to the forfaiting of certain persons for treason in taking up arms against

the Estates. In these proceedings it is narrated that James Grahame and his rebellious airmie after the battle of Kilsyth on 15th day of August last [1645] did pass from Kilsyth to Bothuell and from thence to Calder and from thence to Limphoy, and so on by Cranstounriddell and Torwodlie to the fields between Selkirk and Philiphauche wher they wer defeat and confoundit by the mercie of God upon his distressed people, and by ye strenth of his right hand against his enemies. Turning to our own parish records we observe that on 27th September 1646, James Kynloche and fifteen others "all confessit to have bocht and gottin sum geir mair or les from the Enemie quhen Jamis Grahme's airmie cam alongis from Bothwell;" and all were in consequence ordained to give public satisfaction before the pulpit on the Thursday following. Two years after this occurred the Duke of Hamilton's "engagement," as it is called, to march into England to the support of the Royalist cavaliers, which terminated in the decapitation of that gallant nobleman after the battle of Preston. Many prisoners were apprehended in Mid-Calder and brought before the minister and elders.

1648, *December 16*—Those quho was in the lait unlawfull Ingadgment being callit one by one, all who went out for wther paroches war ordanit to remove within 24 houris and satisfie in that paroch y<sup>t</sup> they went out of. And those y<sup>t</sup> went out of this paroch to satisfie and mak y<sup>t</sup> repentance heir, conform to the Order.

1648, *December 21*—Ordanis to give Johne Aikman a testimoniall y<sup>t</sup> he has satisfieit the order of the churche for going out in the unlawfull ingadgment.

1654, *February 26*—Accounts given in of the contributions in aid of the wounded souldiers.

Of an old tower, the remains of which stood until recently on the estate of Harburn, it is reported that it was fortified by Cromwell to repress the depredations of the mosstroopers. Cromwell's Wit and Cromwell's Stone are names given to particular localities on the same estate, but we are without any exact information of the Protector having visited the district in person. Amongst the parishioners fined in 1662 for complicity with Cromwell during the Commonwealth are the Hon. William Sandilands, tutor of Torphichen, £1200, Mureheid of Linhous £4000, Mr Laurence Scot of Bavelaw £2400, and Patrick Liston in Calder, portioner of Langton, £600.

Passing from the incidents of this unhappy time to the still more regrettable conflicts of Charles II.'s reign, we remark that the Covenanting

army, on their march from the west, which culminated in the battle on Pentland Hills, had taken a line northward of this parish, through Bathgate and Broxburn to Colinton, whence they retreated to their encampment at Rullion Green. The Royal forces, however, under General Dalzell, having marched from Lanark on the 27th November 1666, sojourned that night in Calder, and on the following morning marched to Currie, whence they forced a passage through the hills and engaged the rebels the same afternoon. Patrick Liston, in Calder, before mentioned, and his son William Liston, of Easter Colzium, are specially mentioned as having been present with the Presbyterian army on this occasion. Evidence was given that they were seen at Ratho Kirk and elsewhere, passing to Colinton in company with the rebels, armed with swords, pistols and dirks, and both were sentenced to death when they should be apprehended, their estates to be forfeit to His Majesty's use. We believe that in neither case was the personal part of the penalty executed, and the names of both delinquents were included in the general rescinding of forfeitures in 1690. The following names appear in a list of fugitives, 5th May 1684, attached to a royal proclamation, charging loyal subjects not to harbour nor resett, but to deliver up to justice the following persons: Alexander Multerer in Mid-Calder; John Brown, smith, there; Thomas Ferrer, herd in Moorieston; Thomas Williamson, son to James Williamson in Over Williamstoun; Andrew Henyson, weaver in Moorieston; Robert Brown, tailor in Calder-toun; John Hamilton, sometime in Pumferstoun; James Tennent in Letham; and Archibald Cuthbertson, haunting about Calder Muir.

Our church was the scene of a singular spectacle in the month of November in the same year. This was a military inquiry conducted within the building into the circumstances attending the death of Thomas Kennoway and Duncan Stewart, gentlemen of His Majesty's Life Guards, who had been murdered in the neighbouring parish of Livingston. Kennoway had made himself conspicuous in carrying out the severities which the Privy Council ordered at this time against the Presbyterians. According to Wodrow, he had "seized an old man in Mid-Calder whom he alleged to have been at Pentland, and beat and bound him in a most barbarous manner. Meanwhile some went into Edinburgh and complained to the General of his cruelty, whereupon a

letter coming out to him, he forced the poor old man, in fear of present death, to sign a paper that Thomas Kennoway had never wronged him in his person or goods." He was murdered along with his companion at a place called Swyne Abbey, in Livingston parish, on the 20th November 1684. Three days later a commission was granted to Lords Livingston, Ross, and Torphichen to assist His Majesty's commanding officer in an inquiry into the whole matter, and to put to death summarily any who should be found guilty. The Commission sat at Mid-Calder in the church, and the whole parishioners were called forward and interrogated, but the perpetrators of the deed were never discovered. The following notice of conventicles held on the southern border of the parish is from the transactions of the Privy Council :—

1684, *July 17*—The Council having been informed that "a number of vagabond fugitives and declared traitors, being of a long time designed to meet at a field conventicle, and having at length got some seditious preachers, rebels and traitors to speak a word to them (as they terme it) Did upon the first day of June instant meet and keep a field conventicle at Cairn hill, and likewise another field conventicle upon the 8 instant at Caldstaine-slope or some other places thereabout, at which seditious meetings there would be about two or three hundred men and women present, the men being armed with blunderbuslies, swords pistolls and other murdering wapons." Tho' this has happened, yet such has been the "supine negligence and remissness" of the magistrates, heritors and tenants under-written, through whose grounds the said rebels openly passed, that his Majesties Royal Authoritie and Government has thereby been brought into great reproach ; and the following persons are guilty of a high and manifest cryme and of undutyfullnes to his Majestie, and are accordingly cited to appear before the Council and give information in this regard. The Earle of Tweddale, Tennent of Cairnes, Lord Torphichen, the laird or tenant of Caldstaineslope, of Easter Cairnhill of Wester Cairnhill, of Wester Colzian, and others in neighbouring parishes.

A letter was at the same time directed from the Committee of the Council to General Dalzell, of which the tenor follows :—

SIR—Haveing receaved informatione of a conventicle kept at Cairnehill upon the first instant and another at Calstaineslope upon the eight thereof where severall men wer in armes and diverse women present, of which informatione a coppie is herewith sent, Wee desyre your Excellence to give such orders for discovery of these persones and apprehending them and of the heretors on whose ground the conventicles wer kept as yow shall think fitt. And wee expect frequent accounts in this affair ffrom your Excellence—We are, Your Excellences humble servants, [Signed by the Archbishop of St Andrews, Marquis of Douglas, Bishop of Edinburgh, and the Lords President of the Session and Justice Clerk.]

On the 26th August in the same year, 1684, a petition was presented to the Council by Robert Aitkin in Campbell-tree (Camilty), and about twenty other parishioners, stating that they had been fined in considerable sums by the Laird of Meldrum and Thomas Kennoway, his depute, for alleged not keeping the kirk and attending conventicles. They urge that the list has been wrongously compiled, that the fines are excessive, and above all that they have had no opportunity of being heard in defence, they being able and still willing to produce to their lordships testificats from their minister of their orderly carriage. The lords accede to the petition, and remit the penalties. James Tennent in this parish was sentenced to death with others, 13th November 1684, for declining to disown the declaration of war against the King found affixed to church doors and elsewhere on the Sunday preceding; but this sentence also, like so many others, was not carried out, and Tennent and his companions were liberated after a few months' imprisonment. In April 1685 a second raid was made upon the parish, this time by a company of Highlanders who spent two days here searching for non-conformists and suspected persons.

So ends, as far as we are informed, the tale of "persecution" suffered by the parishioners of Mid-Calder during the period of Episcopal ascendancy. In the Parliament assembled 18th December 1706, for deliberating upon the terms of the union of the Scottish and English Parliaments, a petition was presented by certain heritors, liferenters, elders, parochiners and indwellers in the paroch of Calder, subscribers of the same, against an union with England. Other public affairs noticed in our local records are—

1700, *August 25*—This day there was intimated a national fast to be held on thursday next upon y<sup>e</sup> account of y<sup>e</sup> lait harvest, and the loss the nation has sustained from our Colonys deserting of Darien.

1708, *June 3*—A solemn thanksgiving was held in Mid Calder on account of the English fleet thus defeating a French fleet that came to the Scots seas with the pretended Prince of Wales to invade Britain.

1715—Since June last there was no meeting of the Session for distribution upon the account of the confusion in our country by the unnatural rebellion carried on by the late Earl of Mar and his jacobite associats against King George in favours of a popish pretender.

The administration of civil justice was anciently in the hands of the baron, who had power of life and limb over all within his jurisdiction, but as more settled institutions made progress in the 15th and 16th centuries,

a bailie, appointed by the baron, and answerable to the judicial authorities in Edinburgh, was the civil magistrate. Complaint was made to the Lords of Council and Session by Andrew Drury of that ilk, in the year 1480, that John Sandilands of Caldore and James Tennand his bailie had wrangwisly forfeited him of his tenandry of the lands of West Corswod by process in his barone court of Caldor dated 20th October 1478, in respect of his alledged usurping and purprising the said John, his overlord, in uptaking the mails of the said lands. The lords, after hearing parties, annul the forfeiture. The records of the Baron Court of Calder Comitis are preserved for the period 1583-1601, and incidentally throw much light on feudal tenure and service; the old MS. volume, which is in a good state of preservation, and for the most part very clearly written, is in the collection of John Scott, Esq, C.B., Greenock. Besides the judgment of the Laird and his bailie in disputes between the vassals or tenants, the record contains acts made and ordained for the welfare of the whole barony; and notices of early charters and writs relating to the lands exhibited before the Court, and recorded here for their preservation. The feu-charters so entered extend back to the year 1530, and the tenures usually include ane zeirlie payment, with seruice at Courts and at the Kingis weiris.

At a Court held 10th February, 1583, Harry Stewart younger of Cragyhall tutor, Jone Stevinson younger of Hirdmanscheillis bailie

*Inquest.*

Jon Mrheid in Auderstoun  
Jon Aikman in Dresthelrig  
James tenent of Lennois  
Henry Kinloche in Aderstoun

Rot Douglas of Howden  
James Douglas in Nayr Howden  
Jas Tennent in Owir Wmstoun  
*et cetera*

It being inquirit quhat guid statutis suld be made anent the keiping of guid order in the baronie

It is agreit be the tutor foirsaid and Inquest that na grein wode be cutit and quhaewir dois the sam to pay v lib ye first falt, x lib ye second falt, and to be baneist the third falt ye baronie, and quhenewir any salbe challenged yrwith that all salbe subject to the Jugement of ye Laird and his tutor and to be tryit be ane assys of ye baronie.

Item it is considerit yt yair is greit damage done to ye Laird and the hail baronie of Calder be Ryving out and breking of the commontie qlk wes never vsit of befoir. Thairfur it is statut and ordaint that na man brek nor ryve out ony part of the commontie of Calder fra this day furth, and quhaevir failzeis yrin ilk man that beis challengit salbe tryit be ane inquest of the baronie and gif ony be convict thairof, the takkisman that beis

convict sall pay x lib and lay down ye grownd agane, and ye fewar or frehalder sall pay xx lib and lay down ye grownd agane

And this is doun be ye tutor with consent of ye Inquest of the hail personis abounewrittin.

We have already noticed a lengthy statute regarding the holding of Wappenshaws, and there are further enactments that quhen thair beis ony fray, ilk man salbe reddie to follow the fray to the end with the tutor, or in his absence with the Laird Lennos or any other appointed substitute. Jurisdiction in civil disputes was established in the barony after the manner of the clans, who all became bound to refer complaints to the judgment of their respective chiefs. So, in 1584, it is decreed that na civill action quik ony in the barony of Calder hes or salhave aganis ane uther in the said barony salbe pursewit befor ony uther Juge nor the Laird, his tutor and baillie fra this day furth and quha dois in the contrair shall pay xl lib. The conviction and condemnation of criminals by the Baron was by this time giving way before the better administration of the King's justice. Not only also would a judgment of the local court be subject to revision by the authorities in Edinburgh, but it appears that the baronial jurisdiction, was in danger of being further curtailed if it were not efficiently exercised. Thus it is said in February, 1584, becaus that for non pursewing of the bluidshedding in the barony in dew tyme, the privilege thair of may be taken fra the Laird, in default of persewt for lack of dew advertiz thair of: Thairfor it is statut and ordainit that quhat tyme it sall happin ony bluid to be drawn be ony of the baronie, or anie uther within the baronie, that within ten hours at the fardest eftir the committing thair of the ressaver of ye hurt sall, be himself or sum uther in his name, mak dew advertisement to the Laird and his tutor or thair officer of the baronie, that the samyn may be persewit in dew tyme, and quha failzeis sall pay ten pundis to the laird and his tutor.

1584, *February 10*—Item that the act of parliament be observit in the barony anent ye difference in ye pryces betwix beir and malt; and the malt being bought for iiij merkis ye boll that the aill be sauld for 6d ye peynt fra this day furth, and ilk ane that failzeis in ony of the premiss to pay for ilk falt xl lib.

1585, *May 4*—It is statut be ane act of this court and expresslie commandit that na maner of persoun tak upoun hand to win fewell or pastur gudis on the west muir of Calder within ye malesoun dyke fra the Blakmyre up to the merche of the Breidschall, pertaining to the Laird of Calder.

Item that na man be found in the wode under paine of xl. d.

Item that all the tenentis obey the tutor in carriages usit and wont as they are chargit, ilk persoun under the pane of 1 merk, and ilk horsman ij mks.

1585, *December 28*—Item quhaevir beis found gatherand stikkis or fallen wode in the wode sall pay xld.

Item that nane meddell with the breid medow bot the Laird and his tutor.

1590, *May 1st*—The qlk day David Aikman is constitut forester of ye wode of Calder during ye will of ye Laird and his curators, and Mr Peter Kinloch caution for him yt he sall do his dewitie, and ilk ane to pay xld. that beis fund gangand in Calderwod without leif, *toties quoties*.

1590, *August 25*—The baillie ordainis aill to be sauld for viijd ye pint gud and sufficient.

1590, *November 24*—Item that ane libertie be grantit to all cottaris, tenents or utheris addebtit in service to yr masters, of shering and siclyke in ye harwest tyme, to work to thameselfis on setterday without permission of ye maisteris.

And that all idill men and women tak thaimselfis to service at ye next witsonday under ye pane of banishing tham ye baronie, for quhilk the bailie sall answer to ye Laird and his curators upon his office.

1596, *July 19*—The qlk day in presence of the Laird, Jamis tennand of Linhous, Mr Jon Spottiswod persoun of Calder, Mr James Spottiswod of Falhous his broder and Jon Inglis of Harwod—William Somervell in Blakcastell off his awin consent and with consent of Johne Somervell his sone then present and being delatit as suspect of [a crime], became bundin and obleist to ye laird that the said Johne his son sall with all diligence procede out of all ye bounds of ye baronie of Calder and Regalitie of Torphechin, and remane outwith the same all ye dayis off his liffe.

James Stevenson of Hirdmanschellis was bailie of Calder in 1583 and 1585, and was succeeded in the office by his son Johne Stevenson of the same, who was still acting in 1600. James Tennent of Linhouse was also appointed bailie in conjunction with the last named on 4th May 1585. Mr Johne Broun, baron-bailie of Calder, was directed by the Privy Council to deliver James Bailye and George Twedy in the place of Calder for the present to the Lieutenant of the King's Guard 15th June 1604. John Sandilands, baron-bailie of Calder, is a witness in 1625 to a precept by Lord Torphichen in favour of Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderston. James Sandilands, bailie of the barony of Calder, witnesses a similar deed by his patron in 1628, and was still mentioned in 1644 and 1646. Hugh Sandilands, bailie of Calder, and Marion Miller his wife, had seisin of certain parcels of ground in and about Calder, 14th



February 1694, and Hugh was still bailie in 1703. He left a son Thomas, and a daughter Margaret, mention being also made of Walter and Thomas Sandilands, brothers german to Hugh Sandilands, Bailie of Calder in 1703. Walter Sandilands held the office in 1704, when he married on 7th March Barbara Inglis, daughter of Master Inglis in Bathgate. In 1715, Thomas Sandilands, writer in Mid-Calder, was the magistrate; he married, in February 1716, Bethea, youngest daughter of the deceased Walter Johnstone, writer and sometime session-clerk of Mid-Calder. Between 1727 and 1742 the office was filled by John Tweddel, who, with his wife Francisca Bardie, had several children, viz. Robert, Andrew born 1727, James born 1733, Mary born 1729, Francisca born 1732, and Margaret born 1734. Bailie Tweddel died in the month of August 1747, and his wife was buried 10th November 1746. Robert Tweddel, brewer in Mid-Calder, son and heir of the deceast John Tweddel, merchant and late bailie, had seisin of a house and yard in the village 24th August 1763.

The ecclesiastical authorities in ancient times also exercised an extensive jurisdiction over the conduct and morals of the population. Not to dwell upon breaches of the Sabbath, which were numerous, the punishment of minor offences against the peace, the education of the young, the regulation of the liquor traffic, and the relief of the poor are matters which were superintended by the Kirk-Session. The same authority was active for the protection of the parish in 1645, when the plague was raging in Edinburgh and elsewhere.

1645, *July* 19.—It is ordanit from this day furthe y<sup>t</sup> the collectioun be gatherit at the Kirk duire, and in regaird the visitatioun is so frequent, y<sup>t</sup> no strangeouris be sufferit to cum within the Kirk duire without Testimonialls, and y<sup>t</sup> no women be suffered to have y<sup>r</sup> plaids abowt y<sup>r</sup> heidis in the Kirk heireftir.

We are left in no doubt as to what this "visitatioun" was by numerous other entries at the same time restraining all communication with Edinburgh, "in regaird the pestilence is so frequent yrin," and forbidding any of the parishioners to entertain strangers in their houses. For offending against the latter admonition, Andrew Oswald of Lethame, John Muirheid of Lynhous, James Tenent of Overwilliamstoun, and Alexander Lockhart of Braidschaw were rebuked by the Session. Robert Gairdner in Braidschaw was seen drunk at Alderstoun in July 1645, having been in company suspected of the pestilence, and Lockhart of

Braidshaw was in consequence enjoined to confine him in his own house during the Session's pleasure. Allane Schaw and James Gairdner for going out of the paroche to a suspect place were ordained to be laid in the stokis and iffe they refuse to be banished ye Paroche. In the month following, all within the parish were discharged to resett William Davie at the West Port of Edinburgh, nor to sell him geir, nor tak any of his moneys, als the plague is verie frequent thair. The same prudential consideration seems to have prompted the intimation in April 1645 that no servants within the parish should remove from their present situations until Martinmas, but should work on their former wages ; and in the same month a contribution was collected in the church in aid of puir people quha hes had and is wnder suspitioun of the pestilence and not abill to do for ymselffis.

Although properly enforced with greater severity at this period, the system of allowing no strangers to reside in the parish without testimonials from their late ministers was always observed, as a matter of church discipline, with greater or lesser precision. Frequent searches were made for such strangers, and two of the elders went through the village every Sunday, seeking for drinkeris and vther abussis, it being intimated that any who should shut their doors to ye elderis visiting housis in the tyme of divine service sall be looked on as guiltie. In May 1656 James Nicle confessed that he did writ a testimoniall to Jonat Mordock, but that one James Lamond, a hylandere, compelled him to doe it by holding a whinger to him, and suering he sould stobe him if he did it not. The highlanders, we may say in passing, are occasionally alluded to in our records at this period, but always as a wild and lawless set of men, if not a distinct order of beings! Thus in January 1645 Donald Mackilmurrie, ane heilland-man, was admonished to behave himself christianlie during his abode in the paroche, wherein if he transgress he shall be driven furth.

In a subsequent chapter, we shall have occasion to illustrate in greater detail the exercise of ecclesiastical discipline in the parish. We shall here merely remark that the Church's censures were occasionally inflicted in olden times for very trivial offences, such as dancing at a wedding, or coming in late to church, " eftir the hindermost bell had choppin out" ; and that the publicity given to more serious faults was by no means calculated to elevate the moral atmosphere of the district, nor to restore the erring to

the paths of rectitude and self-respect—in short that the whole system of public admonition reflects great discredit upon the age which practised it. Yet old customs die hard in Scotland, and it is still within the memory of living persons when the “stool of repentance” was used in Calder Church. What has become of this relic of a time which has happily gone by is not now known; but the sack-cloth gown in which the “penitent” sinners of West Calder made their appearance in the church there, is preserved in the Antiquarian Society’s Museum in Edinburgh.

The punishments inflicted by the Church include fine and imprisonment, public repentance and rebuke, and laying the offender in the stocks; after which expiation the culprit was, for graver offences, referred to the baron-bailie to be proceeded against according to law. It appears also that the civil magistrate occasionally evoked the aid of the Church to the punishment of evil-doers whose offences were in any sense of an ecclesiastical nature.

1705, *July 1st*—This day Bailie Sandilands complained to the Session of Barbara Aikin yt she went down on her bare knees at ye place where the stocks lyes and cursed Torphichen, and wished his familie extinct, and wished all ye woes and curses she could minde might come on the familie, saying the curse of ye everlasting God come on him and his Bailiff, etc., etc. The accused was convicted and punished.

The following notices may serve to show the nature of some of the offences and the punishments meted out therefor by the Kirk-Session.

1604, *June 8*—It was statut and ordanit be ye haill Seassioun that all personis als weill men as women quha presentis thame selfis to ye publict place of repentance sall in tym coming stand upon ye seitt upright, and that ye women discover thair facis that thay may be knawin, ilk fault under ye pane of xijsh iiijd.

1611, *September 1st*—It was statute be ye Seassioun of ye kirk with advyse of my lord and his baillie that Marion Mathie sould be banishit ye barony.

1612, *January 5*—James Cowy in Ovrston accusit for taking on off womens appearell in tym of yule against the law of ye country, quha acknowledged the samyn, humbly craving pardon off God and his Kirk, and promitit not to offend in ye lyk any time, quha being ordered to pas to ye publik place off repentance, and to pay to ye Session ye price xsh., which he did.

1628, *August 3*—It is statute be ye Seassioun of ye Kirk that herefter thir be no brydells upon ye Sabboth day.

1630, *May 9*—It is inactit that quhosoevir beis fundin drunk upon ye Sabboth day or making of tulzies, and especially upon that Sabboth day that ye holy Communioun is celebrat, sall mak publict repentance and pay five pund to ye poore.

1643, *September 17*—William Gilbert and Beatrix Browne, accused of thair hynous and scandalous lyf and convirsatioun, were sentenced, the said William to stand thrie dayis in sackcloth and to pay ten pundis, and the said Beatrix to stand in the joggis ye next Sabbath betuixt ye second bell and the third bell, and yrefter to stand in sackcloth till ye preaching be endit.

1644, *February 22*—The Session ordains James Cranstoun to stand in the quhyt scheitis the nixt Sabbath day at the Kirk dore, and eftir sermon to cum publicitie befeir the pulpit for his approvin [proved] drunkenness and staying from his awin hous.

1744, *January 15*—Charles Wallace and Robert Tweedale one night last week broke into ye church and rang the bell at one o'clock in the morning in their drunkenness—Rebuked.

We learn also that the same court dealt with one at least of those interesting disputes known as "breach of promise cases;" and it also acquitted a parishioner accused of homicide.

1636, *July 24*—The quhilk day Johne Massone and Agnes Archibald actit thame-selves in presence of ye Session to abyde be ye arbitrament of George Elphinstoune of Selmes and George Dowglas of Over-schiells anent all mateirs standing betwixt thame concerning promeis of mariag, and quhat contentment ye said Johne Massone sall gif ye s<sup>d</sup> Agnes thairfor. And thaireftir ye said Agnes to be halden to exonor and discharge ye said Johne of all bygane questionis betwixt thame.

1641, *August 5*—Anent ye scandell lying upone Jon Browne in Knichtisrig causing the death of John Potter, ther was none comperit to insist in persut, and this day the said Johne Browne being earnest with the Seassoun to have ye mater cleirit concerning his pairt yroff, he vowit and cleirit to the Sessioun be thrie witnesses viz., Jon Ramsay at ye black-craig miln, David and John Ramsayis his sones, that ye said Johne Browne came that night that the said Jon Potter died to the black-craig myln befor day licht past and stayit with his awin wyf grinding cornes till midnycht, and then went home with his wyff.

We see, therefore, that the Kirk-Session claimed, and indeed exercised, a very wide authority and jurisdiction, although an examination of those rare instances in which the culprit had the hardihood to defy the Church leads one to question whether it possessed any real power to enforce its decrees, other than what depended upon a superstitious dread of incurring the Church's censure, and being decerned "fugitive from church discipline."

1608, *June 12*—George Wryt was accused of misconduct, which he denied, and "most disobediently defying the acts of ye kirk and discipline yroff, wald not obey thair inactments till he was compellit yrto, and being imprisoned in ye revestry till he had fund caution for his satisfaction, break ward and passed his way." Being apprehended in Edinburgh the next day, he was "incarcerat in ye tolbuith of Edr. till he fand caution

for his underlying of ye censures off ye Kirk." Appearing on the 19th June before the Session, he was enjoynit to tak ye sackcloth upon him and stand at ye West Kirk dure outwith ye samin, fra ye first bell ringing bareheidit till ye minister went into ye pulpett and than to be conveyed betwix twa elders to ye publict place of repentance, and thair to stand till sermon and prayers war endit, and to continue this weekly until the sessioun saw evident signes of his repentance.

The record does not show that he ever fulfilled the ordinance, but he appears to have compounded the matter by paying 40 merks for the use of the poor.

Mention has been made of the public stocks—an implement which formerly stood between Calder House and the church, where in the 17th century fairs or markets were held, and merchandise exposed for sale. The position of this rendezvous was marked by the remains of a plane tree of abnormal size, and clearly also of great age. The tree is mentioned as already remarkable in the records of the Baron-Court in 1587 and 1590.

1587, *July 3*.—The tutor and baillie ordanis all the swyne in Caldertoun to be removit furth of ye toun betuix and sonday nixt, and failzeing yrof ordanis James Mar to tak thame to ye trie of Calder and sell thame; ye ane half to ye puris box and ye uther half to himself.

1590, *November 24*.—It is statut and ordanit be ye baillie abouewrittin with consent of ye Laird, his curators and tenents of his baronie yt for guid order to be keepit on Sonday in tyme of sermon, that na chapman in ye meintyme present his pack at ye plaine trie for selling of ony merchandise. And sic lyk the baillie with awise fairsaid ordanis that na cordonaris, creillmen or cadgeris present thair geir quhidder closit or coverit befor ye sermon.

The Rev. Dr Wilson, in his statistical account of the parish in 1793, gives its measurements as 18 feet around the trunk, the branches extending at least 30 feet on either side. It was broken off by a severe storm in the year 1829, the stump, about 12 feet high, remaining until about 1860, when it was finally demolished, but a sapling from it marks as nearly as possible its original position. Attached to this tree was the pillory or "joggs"—a device serving the same end as the stocks, only that in this case the culprit stood erect with two pieces of bent iron padlocked around the neck, by way of punishment for certain small offences. For example :—

1615, *October 8*—Ordanis with consent off my lord and his bailly Cristian Sims for scolding and uther blasphemies to be putt in ye brankis and banished the barony.

1621, *October 28*—This day William Byschop in Calder for ane great injury done be him to ye Persone [parson] was put in ye Joggis, and remanit thar till ye preiching was done.

1644, *June 2*—Ordanis the bailie to lay James Inglis, creilman, in the stox for his malicious speiches and disobedience to the Sessioun.

We may remark that these institutions are very ancient, dating from the time of David II.; and it is interesting at the present time to recall the fact that they were first used for "unruly artificers" (the unemployed), for whose accommodation stocks were ordered to be erected all over the country before Pentecost, 1350. The last time, we believe, that this form of punishment was inflicted was about fifteen years ago at Newbury in Berkshire; but the magistrates who ordered it did not receive that meed of popular applause to which their antiquarian tastes justly entitled them!

In reading through this category of delinquencies, one is struck by the ethical changes which time has brought about in moral principles, many of the acts which were punished as highly criminal two hundred and fifty years ago being now regarded as no crimes at all. Of such the most fascinating to the general mind, as they were the most remarkable in themselves, is all that series of offences which presupposes a tampering with the unseen world, and is variously denominated charming, sorcery, and witchcraft. It has been said that the "Calder Witches" were at one time as proverbial in this country as the Lancashire witches in England; and the Cunnigar, or Witches' Knowe, as it has been called—a small eminence on the north side of the village—is pointed out as the spot where some of these unhappy creatures were burned or otherwise put to death. Human bones have at various times been discovered there, but bearing upon them no evidences of having ever been touched by fire. That human beings were actually executed in our parish upon these absurd charges is amply shown by authentic record. In February 1644, Agnes Bischope in Calder, after due trial, was "sufficietlie cleirit to be ane commone charmer and ane hynous and notorious witch," and was in consequence condemned to be executed according to law. She appears to have long had the reputation of being uncanny, for as early as 1618 a "variance" is reported between the wife of David Jack in Dedrig and Agnes Bishop, who had

called each other theiffis, and witchis, and sick uther vyle names, to ye great dishonour of God, and sklander of His Kirk. In the same year (1644) David Aikman, in Nether Williamstoun, defrayed the charges which the Kirk-Session had been put to regarding his wife, Jonet Bruce, who was lately executed for witchcraft. In the latter case we get incidentally a glimpse of the feudal power of the baron, a debt of fourscore merks due to the deceased having been assigned to the Session by her husband, "and be Mr Wm. Sandilandis tutor of Torphichen, as having ryt yrto be virtue of the death of wmquhill Jonet Bruce, quha deit ane confessing and suffering witch, which at the directioun of the sd Mr Wm. Sandilandis was ordainit to be gewin for the sd Jonet hir intertainment during hir imprissonment, and what was remaining to be bestowit for the hellp of the intertainment of the remanent of the witchis, quha had not to bestow on thairselvis." It is a little disappointing to our curiosity that the evidence upon which these convictions were obtained is seldom given; where it is preserved it usually relates to occurrences many years antecedent to the trial, and is of a kind which obviously would obtain no credit unless from minds predisposed by superstition to receive it. Thus, in 1590, Eupham M'Calyean of Cliftounhall, a lady of rank, was burned alive at the Castle hill of Edinburgh, a part of the evidence against her being that eighteen years previously or thereby she had consulted with Jonet Cunningham, an auld indytit witch of the fynest stamp, for to haif poysonit Joseph Douglas of Punfrastoun.

1644, Nov. 17—The qlk day James Sandilandis bailze declairit that one of the witchis alreddie in the tyme of her imprisonment declairit to him that Margret Thomsone had bein w<sup>t</sup> them att severall of y<sup>r</sup> meittingis. James Wallace, elder, declairitt that Agnis Vassie, Agnes Bischop and Marion Gibsoun all thrie confessing and suffering witches declairit to him thatt the s<sup>d</sup> Margret Thomsone had bein with them at severall of y<sup>r</sup> meittingis.

Margret Williamsoun in Va declairit thatt about auchtein zeiris since or yrby she having ane kow seik the s<sup>d</sup> Margret Thomsone cam to hir and s<sup>d</sup> the kow was forspokkin and if she wald bid hir for Godis seik chairme the kow she wald do it. Qlk the s<sup>d</sup> Margret Williamsoun did, and the s Margret Thomsone having chairmit the kow immediatlie yrefter Margret Williamsoun fell seik.

John Forrest declairit about ane zeir syne or yrby he being diseasit the s<sup>d</sup> Margret Thomsone coming in to him to his dwelling house said to him she hard tell q<sup>t</sup> ailed him for she had a sonne y<sup>t</sup> had the same disease and y<sup>t</sup> ane woman in the toun of Edr had gewin hir ane drink to giwe him, qlk she did thrie severall morningis and then cuttit his

belt in nyne peices and eardit it in thrie severall places betwixt twa nobile menis landis, and at the inlaying of everie ane of them said God let the boy never tak that disease untill I tak thee wp again. And bad me go to the woman and gett the lyk drink and do the lyk and it wald heal me.

No further notice of this case appears in our parish records, but in the Register of the Privy Council, in December 1644, we observe

Complaint by Margaret Thomson, wife of Alexander Gray in Calder, against the Tutor and minister of that parish for "waking her the space of twentie dayis naked and having nothing on her but a sack cloth" under a charge of witchcraft. Also that she had been "laid in the stocks and kept separate from all company and worldly confort, nor could she see any end of her misery by lawfull trial." The lords having the tutor and minister before them and no regular charge being forthcoming, ordained her to be liberated.

In the same year the elders are enjoined to mak tryell and search for ane woman callit Marioun Ramsay quha is fled out of Prissoun in Leith, and is suspect of witchcraft, and if scho be in this paroche to bring her to Calder; and in the month of April following twenty pounds Scots are paid to Samuel Johnstoune for meitt and drink furnished be him to certain witchis the tyme of thair imprisonment, conforme to his compt.

But the most remarkable case of this nature occurred in Mid-Calder so recently as the year 1720. At this period public attention was attracted in no small degree by a report of devilish doings in the parish. The Hon. Patrick Sandilands, third son of Lord Torphichen, then a boy of twelve years, was said to be bewitched. He was the subject of trances, hallucinations, and other phenomena which are narrated, and doubtless improved upon, in a contemporary tract entitled *Satan's Invisible World discovered*; and great was the stir which these events occasioned. People walked out from Edinburgh to investigate the affair; the family appealed through the parish minister to the Presbytery of Linlithgow, and several old women in Calder village were promptly pounced upon as witches and put in prison. But the time had fortunately passed when people could be put to death in Scotland for witchcraft, and it appears that nothing worse than a parish fast was launched at the devil on this occasion; as the youth also recovered in time, the alleged sorcerers were allowed to depart after being publicly rebuked and lectured in the church. It brings this uncanny-looking business strangely near to ourselves when we consider that the late Lord Torphichen who died in 1862, was only nephew of the witchied boy of Calder!

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The Parish Church, founded prior to 1160, and rebuilt in the 16th century, occupies a position peculiarly picturesque and beautiful on the south side of the village and adjacent to the grounds of Calder House. As its history forms the subject of a subsequent chapter, we do not further advert to it in this place. There is one dissenting establishment in the parish, belonging to the United Presbyterian persuasion, which was erected in 1854, and occupies the site of a previous structure dating from 1765. The curfew was until recently always rung at the parish church at eight every week-night, and also at six in the morning.

Next to the church the oldest institution in the parish is the Grammar School, which has existed in the village for probably three centuries at least. The old schoolhouse, situated at the foot of the Calder House policies, and in close proximity to the church, being out of repair, and its situation being considered unhealthy, it was demolished in 1782, and the new Grammar School and schoolmaster's house erected at that time in their present position, upon ground excambied by Lord Torphichen, who also gave sufficient stone for the buildings out of his quarries, mail-free. The school was at this time provided to accommodate forty scholars, but it has since been enlarged. The exact position of the old school is not indicated, but it appears that its site is now occupied by the transepts of the church itself. Mr John Wardrop, schoolmaster in 1782, refers to it as being beside one of Lord Torphichen's gates, and says its position is "very ineligible by the low situation, and being almost covered with very old and extensively spread trees, part of his Lordship's policy." And a few months later it is mentioned that the "removal of the old schoolroom has damaged the west gable of the church and the roof near it," which had to be repaired in consequence. It is much to be regretted that no record of this institution has until recent years been preserved, but we meet with incidental references to the school in the ecclesiastical and other registers at an early period.

1611, *June 7*—*William Hamilton*, enterit schoolmaster to ye barnis and promittit to teich them to sing, reid and wryt, and the fundation off ther gramar, and he to have xx lib of ye parochin with xij sh. more of ilk bairne. And for ye xx lib ye parochin to be taxit.

1612, *November 2*, *Olyver Patersone* — The Seassion ordanis Jhone Douglas, collector off ye penalties to giff to Olyver Patersone, schoolmaster, ij merks to buy cloth-  
ing to himself, as also to giff him ten merks farder.

1614, *January 16*—*Williame Allane*, present schoolmaster was ordanit to adverteis ye Seassioun fourty dayis befor Witsondy nixt quidder he wald continue any longer to teich ye bairns or not, that they might provyd sum uther in case off his departur.

1616, *September 1st*—Master Robert Gilmor, minister, having bene citit befor ye shieriff of Edr. be William Allane, last schoolmaster in Calder, for not paying to him sextene pundis allegit to be awin to him in payment of his last zeris fyftie pundis off fiail [fees] promittit to him be ye seassioun, debursit to him the said xvi lib.

1644, *November 14*—*James Liddill*. The sessioun this day appointed James Liddill to be schoolmaster and desyrit the minister to agree with him in conditionis.

1644, *December 1st*—Anent ye scholle ordainis the quarter payment to be gewin to ye maister to be ix sh 4d, and quhat moire att yr awin optioun.

1645, *June 30*—This day debursit to Jamis Liddill, schoolmaster, L8. 4. 8 quhilk compleitis him all bygainis quhilk was promittit him for teitching of the schoole.

1647, *December 30*—*John Hutchisone*. Ordainis Jamis Flint to geive John Hutchisone of byganis for teaching the schoole 22 merks.

1648, *May 24*—Ordainis the Bailze and Jas Flint to compt with Jone Hutchisoun, schoolmaster.

1654-1663—*Mr Patrick Weir*, schoolmaister at Calder Kirk.

1665, *April 23*—The said day ordains to give the poor scholars books and to pay their quarter payments to ye schoolmaster.

1665, *June 25*—*Mr George Hutchisone* being this day fund qualified to teach the school and to precent in the congregation was receaved to be schoolmaster during his lyfe time.

1665, *July 9*—The quhilk day Georg Hutchesone was appointed to have the con-signation money.

1690—*Mr Robert Henry* schoolmaster prior to this date.

1698, *February 13*—*Mr Moses Cherry*, schoolmaster is this day chosen session-clerk, and his oath de fideli taken. His wife was Elizabeth Hutcheson.

1703—Process by Mr Cherry, schoolmaster, against William Halliday in East Miln of Calder for slander.

1714, *December 26*—*Mr William Graham* schoolmaster to the Grammar School of Midcalder, nominated and appointed by the Session to be their Clerk who gave his oath de fideli.

In the year 1651 a legacy of 4000 merks was left to the school of Calder by Thomas Moodie of Dalry, the revenue of which was directed to be applied to the somewhat singular object of teaching church music. The benefactor has been traditionally represented as a person of obscure origin and humble occupation—a cadger or carrier of eggs and poultry between Calder and Edinburgh, but by whatever means he may have acquired his wealth, he is designed in the records "Thomas Moodie of

Dalry," and his daughter Jonet married Sir Alexander Maxwell of Saughtonhall. There is a Bond of Corroboration by the said Sir Alexander and by Jonet Moodie, his spouse, of date 26th November 1655, conceding an annualrent of £160 Scots out of the lands of Saughtonhall in the Barony of Broughton, corresponding to the principal sum of 4000 merks, mortified by the deceased Thomas Moodie of Dalry, father of the said Jonet, for the purpose of providing a schoolmaster "qualified to teach the four parts of the grammer and airt of musick, at leist he haveing ane Doctor able to teach the said musick airt" to the parishioners of Calder. Mr Patrick Weir, schoolmaister at Calder Kirk, was heritably infeft in this annualrent, which afterwards passed to his successor, Mr George Hutchisone who, on 23rd June 1666, renounced his claim on Saughtonhall, and the money at the same time was mortified on the lands of Dedridge, in the parish and barony of Calder Comitis, for the yearly payment of a like sum of £160 Scots. The hereditary patrons and managers of this foundation were the Lord Torphichen, Maxwell of Saughtonhall, and one or two of the ministers of Edinburgh for the time being; and the sum chargeable in perpetuity upon the lands of Dedridge amounts in sterling money to £11, 2s. 2½d. annually. For many years this office was always held by the village schoolmaster, who, in addition to his regular appointment, required to be duly presented to this situation by the patrons of the Moodie Mortification; but it seems that a doctor or teacher of music was at one time specially attached to the school.

1695, *July* 21—Paid to Mr Patrick Middleton, doctor of ye scholl for his extraordinary pains in precenting at the tym of ye comunion, 2 lib. 18 sh.

Upon the assumption by government, in our own time, of the control of educational establishments, this annual payment was devoted to defraying the school fees of certain deserving poor; and when free elementary education was granted, it was converted into two bursaries for general proficiency, to be awarded annually in Calder School. The first holders of these scholarships in the year 1893 were Thomas Jack and Frances Laura Stevens.

Calder Fair, still held in the village in the months of March and October, dates from the days of Charles II., but it appears that markets were occasionally held at Calder at an earlier period. Previous to 1620 these were sometimes held after church hours on Sundays—a relic of the

usage of Catholic times,—for we observe several acts of the Session that merchandise was not to be exposed for sale, and particularly that no cordiner should sell schoone, nor no parochynner sould buy the same until ye preiching be endit. And in the year 1647 James Achisoune, an old man, being called to account for grinding corn on the Lord's day, said—“It was als guid a warld quhen the mercat held on the Sabbath day as it is now.”

The following Acts of Parliament were passed in the years 1669 and 1685 relating to Calder Fairs:—

*Carolus II. Rex.*—The king's maiestie and Estates of Parliament takeing into their consideratioun that the toun and lands of Calder, perteing heretablie to Walter Lord Torphichen is a publict place of resort and lyes upon the Hie way betuixt Edenburgh and the west cuntrie, and that for the encouragement and advantage of the indwellers and others and for keeping of commerce and trade amongst his Maiesties leidges in these bonds, it is convenient and necesser that ther should be ane weekly mercat and ane yeerlie fair at the said toun of Calder—Thairfor the King's Maiestie with advice &c. doe heirby give and grant to the said Walter, Lord Torphichen, his airs and successors ane weekly mercat to be kept at the said Toun of Calder, vpon thursday weeklie with ane frie fair also to be kept therat vpon the first Tuisday of October yeerlie in all tyme comeing for buying and selling of horse, nolt, sheip, fish, flesh, meill, malt and all sort of grain, cloath, lining, and woollen, and all sort of merchant commodities; with power to the said Lord, to collect, intromet and uptake the tolls, customes and dewties belonging thereto. And to enjoy all other liberties and freedomes als freely in all respects as any other in the lyk caces, in all tym comeing. 17 Dec. 1669.

*Jacobus VII. Rex.*—Our Sovereigne lord, considering that the toun of Calder belonging to Walter Lord Sandilands of Torphichen lies conveniently for faires to the ease of His Majesties lieges and the benefit of the place Gives and Grants three free faires in the year, the first to be holden upon the first Tuesday of March, the second upon the third Weddensday of July at West Calder, and the third upon the last Tuesday of October also at West Calder, each faire to continue for the space of three days, with all liberties, tolls and customs to the foresaid Lord Torphichen, used and wont. 16 June 1685.

We have met with no one who can tell us anything about the village cross of Mid-Calder, or where it formerly stood. So late as 17th December 1782, however, we see the following note:—

The Heritors having met, at the desire of Mr Sheriff Cockburn, to take into their consideration the present situation of the country and state of markets, did *inter alia* recommend to the tenants in this parish to meet by themselves and make up notes of the quantities of the different kinds of grain they need for seed, and to consult with the

proprietors upon the most proper mode of supply, before the end of January next. Intimation of which to be fixed upon the church door and the CROSS.

The personnel of some of the professors of the medical art in the parish in early times may be not without interest. Francis Easton, chyrurgeon in Calder, and Kathrine Flynt his spouse had seisin of a house and barnyard in Calder 10th April 1694. He is still mentioned in 1701, when he declared that slanderous expressions concerning the elders of Mid-Calder had been used by Mr John Anderson, minister of West Calder, at a banquet given by the laird of Grange (Charlesfield) after the baptism of his child; and Francis Easton, chyrurgeon, again appeared before the Session later in the same year in reference to a sermon which the minister had preached against promiscuous dancing, and which had been called "the dancing sermon." Mr Easton married, secondly, Elizabeth Burnet, widow of Wm. Stevenson, chamberlain of Kirkhill, whose will is recorded 16th March 1731. John Sandilands, chirurgeon in Mid-Calder, brother of Thomas Sandilands, writer there, was deceased in 1732, leaving a daughter, Rachel. In 1737, mention is made of Agnes Litham, spouse to William Young, chirurgeon in Calder; and, in the following year, Mr William Mitchell, surgeon, who is stated to be a heritor in the parish, was admitted to the eldership. This was the son of Mr John Mitchell of Alderston. John Gray was retoured heir of Andrew Gray, surgeon in Mid-Calder, his father, 2nd November 1763. James Kirkland, surgeon in Mid-Calder, is mentioned in 1775; and on 9th November 1777 John Lamont, surgeon, and Agnes Blackwood, his wife, had seisin of their dwelling house and garden at Combfoot of Calder. It was this Dr Lamont who enclosed and built a small erection over a mineral well which exists on the farm of Letham; the water is strongly impregnated with sulphur, and was considered by him to be beneficial in the treatment of certain ailments. William Hamilton, surgeon in Mid-Calder, and Mary Brown, his wife, are mentioned in 1784.

The curlers of Calder may certainly claim to be a very ancient body, and we must hope that they observed the fitness of things better than did some of their brethren of two hundred and fifty years ago.

1646, *January 8*—Ordainis summond Archibald Reull for curling on the Sabbath day.

*January 21*—This day Archibald Reull confessit that he tuik wp a staine and shott bot 2 shotts for a wager—George Loch, sworne, deponit he heard Archibald say to him

he shott bot a few shottis at the curling with Jamis Muire for A pynt of aill. The case is continued, *i.e.* postponed.

We observe that in the foregoing somewhat too miscellaneous collection of facts no reference has been made to the division of the parish into Mid and West Calder. This took place by Act of Parliament 12th March 1647 entitled, "An act for establishing a new Kirk at Calder to be called in tyme coming the West Kirk of Calder." John Hamilton of Grange, Sir William Ross of Murieston, the laird of Harwood, and some others objected to the division, and the laird of Grange appeared and gave evidence before a Committee of the House. His objections, however, were overruled, and the new parish was erected at this time, it being ordained that the heritors, tenants, and parishioners, shall contribute for building the church and manse and the churchyard dyke, and for keeping them in repair.

The following figures have been published by authority at the various dates as representing the population of the parish of Mid-Calder; it is of course impossible that they can be more than approximately correct, but they may be accurate enough for purposes of comparison.

Anno 1755—pop. 760.	Anno 1851—pop. 1474.
„ 1793—pop. 1251.	„ 1881—pop. 1695.
„ 1827—pop. 1507.	„ 1891—pop. 3126.

The great increase within the last ten years is in a large measure due to the opening up of oil industries in this and neighbouring parishes. It is probable that more than half the population is at the present time engaged in mining operations, the village of Pumpherston alone, which ten years ago was little more than a green field, being now estimated to contain upwards of 14,000 souls, or nearly half the population of the whole parish. The climate appears to be conducive to longevity. James Greig, long tenant at Bankton Mains, and for the last fifty years grieve at Charlesfield, is the patriarch of the parish. He informs the author that he was ploughing his father's acres while the battle of Waterloo was being fought, and has completed his 94th year.

The only industries exercised in the parish which may properly be termed manufactures are of very recent introduction. The treatment of oleiferous shale, which abounds in this district, was commenced at Pumpherston in 1883 by Mr William Fraser. Having proved the shales to be good in quality, and abundant in quantity, this gentleman formed a

company to deal with the mineral, and works were erected upon the most modern lines, which have been rapidly extended. The shale is worked by inclined mines, driven so as to follow the inclination of the bed of shale, which represents a fall of about 1 in 1.5. The number of men employed is 700, and the daily output about 600 tons; there are 424 retorts of the Young and Beilby patent, each capable of dealing with about 30 cwt. of shale per day. The yield of oil is low, but a high percentage of sulphate ammonia is obtained, and this material, which formerly was run away into the rivers, has become the most valuable item in the produce of the works, about 20 tons of sulphate being manufactured daily. The works extend to over 23 acres and are compactly built. One hundred and sixty-four houses have also been erected by the Pumpherston Oil Company in the vicinity of the works for the accommodation of their work people.

The West Mill (grain), situated at the north of Calder village, and worked by the Waters of Almond, has been long celebrated for the quality of its produce. It is so denominated in contradistinction from the East Mill, the ruins, or rather the site, of which may be seen a little lower down the Almond, near to East Calder. Both these mills are evidently of very ancient foundation, as James Mure and Isobell Anderson, his spouse, at the West Mylne of Calder, are included in a list of tenants in the barony in 1590. Robert Clyde at the West Mill of Calder had ane bairne baptized 27th June 1605; and John Mureheid at ye Eist Miln of Calder, died before 18th April 1577. On 20th March 1555, John Sandelandis fear of Calder gives a feu charter to James Leirmonth, his servitor of his lands of Over Craig "with astrictioun to the myln of Calder usit and wont"; and it is only comparatively recent that free multure has been allowed in the barony. By an act of the Baron Court of 7th October 1598, it is statut and ordainit that all quernis for grinding of stufe within the baronie be demolischit and brokin now and in all tyme cuming, and gif ony beis fund heireftir haveand tharof, he sall pay fourtie schillingis, toties quoties. The Black-craig Miln and Langhaugh Miln are names which occur in the records as Baron Mills of the barony of Calder. A corn mill was erected at Camilty in the early part of the present century by the late Alexander Young of Harburn; and this manufacture having been suspended, the premises have more recently been occupied by the Midlothian Gunpowder Company, which now carries on its perilous

art in this deserted district. Adambrae Mill is the ancient "Miln of Alderstoun" which in 1730 was said to have been lately erected by Mr John Mitchell of Alderstoun, and to which the tenants of the barony were "thirled" or bound to send their grain. It has since been engaged in the manufacture of paper, and has been used latterly as a dairy. New-c Calder paper mill, about a mile further down the Almond, employs ten hands in the production of brown and coarse wrapping-paper.

There are several quarries in the parish yielding freestone for building, and whinstone for road metal, and it is understood that the lands of Murieston have produced a large revenue to the proprietors from the limestone quarries. Bell's quarry, which has been long disused, but has given its name to the neighbouring village, may be seen by the roadside on the lands of Brucefield. The discovery of an almost inexhaustible bed of freestone at the foot of the Cairn hills was made about the year 1830 by Mr Michael Linning, who offered therefrom to the Royal Association of Edinburgh as much stone as would complete the National Monument on Calton Hill. The quarry has never been at any time extensively worked. Mr Linning was a man of inventive mind. Among his many projects, which were to have united the welfare of mankind at large with the development of his own estate, was a scheme for the conversion of peat into portable fuel, adapted for manufacturing purposes by means of compression. The scene of these experiments is marked by a stone chimney, which still remains on the lands of Colzium, though partially shattered by the memorable thunderstorm of 12th August 1884. But however correct the system may have been in theory, it proved to be unsuccessful in practice, the situation of Mr Linning's experiments being too remote from coal to afford any prospect of remunerative working.

The parish contains upwards of thirty miles of public roads. One of the old coach roads from Glasgow to Edinburgh passes through Mid-Calder village, where it is joined by the highway from Ayr to the metropolis; the turnpike road from Edinburgh to Lanark traverses the upland district of the parish at Causewayend. It is supposed that the last-named road, passing as it does within about a mile of the camp at Castle Greg, was in some part of its length originally of Roman construction; but for our own part we should consider this extremely improbable. Three toll-



bars formerly existed in the parish. The houses of two are still standing, namely, Howden Turnpike, on the main road near Howden Bridge, and Raw Turnpike, at the angle of two roads near the manse. A third, called Howatston Turnpike, formerly stood beside Charlesfield Lodge on the road to Livingston. The two bridges on the Edinburgh road—one near the village, erected in 1794, and Howden Bridge, built in 1764—are substantial structures, and of proper width; the other two bridges which span the Almond—one near Livingston, and the other at Bridgend—are narrow and inadequate to the traffic. "Calder Bridgend" is mentioned in the records as early as 1563, and frequently during the seventeenth century, from which it is apparent that a bridge over the Almond has existed at this point previous to the construction of the present erection. A tall bridge crossing the Linhouse water at Camilty, the object of which is not evident, was built about 1830, chiefly through the influence of Mr Young of Harburn, to whom, with the late Lord Hermand, the district is much indebted for improvement in the roads. The design was to carry forward the cross road, which intersects the parish in a southerly direction, across the Caldstone Slap, and so into Peeblesshire; but the project was defeated by the Earl of Morton, who objected to such a highway traversing his territory. The road therefore terminates at this bridge, which leads out only on to the moss. There are in the parish several other bridges of minor importance. Concerning that near Nether Williamston, we see in our parochial registers:—

1646, *March 7*—Collectit this day 110 merks for building ye bridge at Williamstoun.

1647, *December 19*—The Session gives full power to the Tutor and Bailze to agrie with Samuel Aikman to build Williamston Bridge.

A still earlier entry in the same record relates to Blackburn Bridge:—

1633—Upon the nynt and sixteen dayis of Junij 1633, thair was collectit in the Kirk of Calder xxxv. lib ten sh. quhilk was delyvrit to Mr James Ross, minister at Leivingstoun as ane help to the bigging of thair brig at Blackburn over the Almond.

The main line of the Caledonian Company's railway from Edinburgh to Carstairs and the south traverses the parish on the Linhouse property; the Cleland branch, or main line from Edinburgh to Glasgow, on the same company's system, was constructed in 1865, and passes a little to the northward. The only railway station in the parish is at Newpark.



Fig. 4.—View of Calder House from SW.

## CHAPTER II.

### Calder House & the Lords Torphichen.

CALDER HOUSE, which during all the mutations and vicissitudes of five and a half centuries, has been the seat of the family of Sandilands, is situated upon an elevated lawn on the south bank of the Almond, in close proximity to the church and village. But in saying this, we have to keep in recollection the fact that the baronial residence is older than the village itself, which has grown up, as it were, beneath the shadow of its feudal castle; hence it is that much of what goes to make up the history of the parish in early times was transacted in Calder House. Like so many mansions of its kind, the building we are describing has been added to and altered by many different hands to meet the conveniences of various ages, until all the special characteristics of ancient Scottish architecture which doubtless once belonged to the structure have passed away. It has also become a matter of much difficulty, owing to the treatment of the walls with rough casting, to estimate from their style or appearance the approxi-

mate age of the various portions of the building. In this endeavour we derive some assistance from the annexed ground plan, which has been prepared for the present work by Thomas Ross, Esq., Architect, Edinburgh.

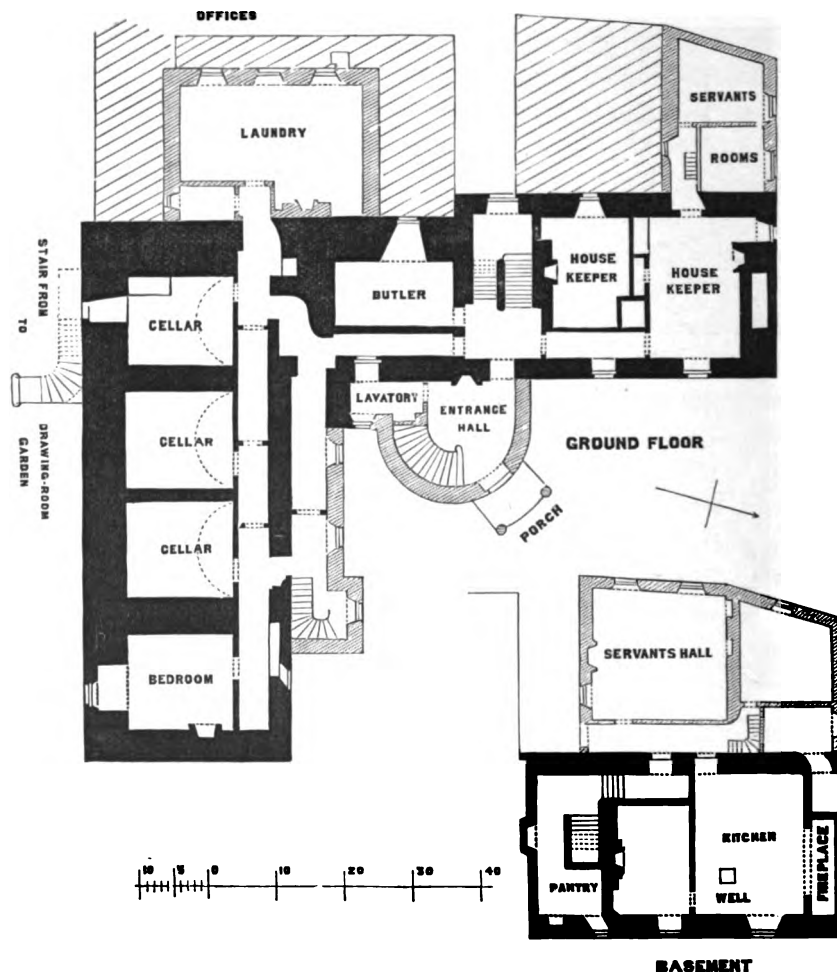


Fig. 5.—Ground Plan of Calder House.

The oldest part of the house is clearly the east wing, in which the modern drawing-room, anciently the great hall, stands on three massive cylindrical vaults, and we incline to think that a small portion of the north limb of the figure L may also be original work. The wall on the south is nearly

7 ft. in thickness, and on the west over 8 feet thick ; and it is probable that these may be as old as the 13th century, or even earlier. The modern dining-room at the eastern end of this main block (over the apartment marked BEDROOM on the plan) appears to be a later extension. To the end of the north wing, as it originally stood, a considerable addition, bearing evident traces of what is known as 17th century work, has been made, and this structure is both wider and slightly higher in the roof than the main portion of the castle. The ground here falls away somewhat abruptly, and a basement flat devoted to kitchen offices has been constructed beneath. This wing, as we have said, exhibits features of 17th century character, but we have reason to believe that it was added by James, the seventh Lord Torphichen, whose "reign" commenced only in 1696. The stables were also erected by him and bear his initials with those of Lady Jean Hume, his wife, and the date 1722. The rotunda in the angle, containing the entrance-hall, was built about 1780, and the low range of offices on the western side may be of about the same age. The present lord has rendered the mansion more ornate by introducing the two dormer windows on the west elevation, one of which is corbelled out from the main walls in a most picturesque manner (see Fig. 4), and the upper portion of the square wing in the angle (Fig. 8) was also his lordship's addition. In our ground plan, the hatching indicates erections which are clearly more recent than the year 1720, those portions of the structure which are certainly older than that being shown in black.

The kitchen contains an old roof-tree ceiling, and in the floor of this apartment is a flat stone covering the castle well. This was outside the walls of the original tower, and may probably have been situated in a courtyard ; it has been long covered up, but the late Dr Sommers, who examined it about the year 1830, has recorded that it is 93 feet deep and constructed of finely polished stone. At that period it contained very little water. According to tradition, there existed an underground passage between the bottom of this well and the church or village ; the same has been said of many other castles, but it seems in this case highly improbable.

Such historical references to Calder House as have come to our notice are necessarily to a large extent embodied in the genealogical

account of Lord Torphichen's family which follows. In 1335, it is said that a yearly cess or tax of xx shillings, due from the Castel of Caldore to the ward of the Castle of Edinburgh, at the term of the purification of the B. Virgin, was unpaid in the said year of 1335. About this period the castle and barony passed from the Thanes of Fife to the Douglasses, and they were bestowed by William, Earl of Douglas, upon Sir James Sandilands *in liberum maritagium* with his sister Alienora, "to be held by him and his heirs in like manner as Earl William held the said barony of Duncan, Earl of Fife." This transaction was confirmed by David II. at Dundee, 15th May 1351, and the feudal "service" then prescribed, and by which the castle and barony are still held under the crown, is the presentation to the Sovereign of a pair of gilt spurs at the feast of Pentecost in each year, if asked only. King Robert II. was at Calder House attended by his court in 1385, when by an original document still in the possession of the family, he remits to his well-beloved son James of Sandylendis, Knicht, the forty shillings sterling due to the King for the castle ward of the barony of Caldore, to be held to him and Jean his spouse, the king's dearest daughter, and their heirs, in perpetuity, for payment of a silver penny at the Castle of Caldore, if demanded, dated at Caldore 24th May, *anno regni* xv.—being the year 1385. A seal is attached to this document, which is, however, imperfect.

In 1396 a sum of thirty-three pounds and twenty pence sterling was allowed to the Earl of Fife, the same having been expended upon the Castle of Caldor by the King's command, and in his service; and two years later a second entry occurs in the Exchequer Rolls—For divers costs incurred at the Castle of Caldor by the King's orders £17 10s.

These expenses may have reference to the preparation of the mansion for George, Earl of Angus, who at that time married one of the royal princesses, and made his temporary residence at Calder House under agreement with Sir James Sandilands. By indenture made at Hirdmanstoun 27 Appiril the yheir of our Lorde 1397, between Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus, with George Earl of Angus her son, and Jamys of the Sandilendis, lorde of Caldore, the last named undertakes to deliver his castle of Caldore freely to the said lady and her son, "his cosyn," at the

next feast of Whitsonday for the term of five years next following, they agreeing to re-deliver the same at the end of that time in as good order as they received it. It is provided that the said earl and his mother shall have right of casting peats, and of pasturing horses in the wood in the summer time; and if they shall like to have any lands to farm in the said lordship, they shall have them at a just rent—equal only to what any other persons would pay. And if it shall happen in the meantime the said George shall decease (als Gode forbeide), the said nobil ladi shall deliver up the castle to Sir James Sandilands or his heirs. This under the seals of the parties.

King James VI. visited the parish in 1557, when he confirmed at Calder a charter of the lands of Auld Lindores, co. Fife, on the 30th June in that year. After the death of James Sandilands of Calder, and during the minority of his son, the second Lord Torphichen, Calder House was for some years the residence of Harry Stewart, younger of Craigiehall, who had married the widow of the late baron. On the 3rd April 1581 there is an act of caution which narrates that the said Harry Stewart and Dame Jean Ross his spouse are entrusted with the keeping of the place of Calder, and engaging that they shall restore the same, when required, in as good condition as they received it, "under the pane of refunding to James Sandelandis of Calder and his airis of all dampnage and skaith that thay sall happin to sustene throw thair negligence." On 16th November 1585 caution is again given for Harry Stewart, younger of Craigiehall, that he shall render the fortalice of Calder to Williame Killing, messenger, upon the 23rd of November instant. A precept of the lands of Over Alderston and others is dated at the Castle of Calder Comitis 12th August 1606.

Historians of the Church all pause upon the visit of John Knox to Calder House in the early part of the year 1556, and the celebration of the Holy Sacrament by him in the Great Hall, already referred to. His portrait, distinctive amongst the many treasures of art and of antiquity which the mansion contains, has inscribed upon the back—"The Rev. Mr John Knox—the first Sacrament of the Supper given in Scotland after the Reformation was dispensed by him in this Hall." The features in the portrait are those with which we are all familiar—the long flowing beard

and the Geneva cap and gown—the greater number of the published portraits of this remarkable man being indeed engraved from this identical picture. Some criticism has been bestowed upon the subject in recent years, chiefly by Carlyle, who upheld a portrait at Glasgow to be the only true and veritable delineation of the great Scottish reformer. His objections, however, were conclusively answered by Mr James Drummond, late curator of the National Gallery, and the result of the controversy seems to be to establish the authenticity of the portrait at Calder House. Whilst upon this subject we might say that Knox is usually represented by his biographers to be descended from the Renfrewshire family of that name. Of this there is no proof, and all that is known is that his father, William Knox, was a native of, and a resident at Haddington; and the reformer told the Earl of Bothwell that he had “borne a good mynde” to his family, “for, my lord, my grandfather, goodsher and father have served under your lordshipis predecessors, and some of thame have died under their standardis.” It may also be not quite correct to say that the Sacrament given by him in Calder House was the first celebration in Scotland according to the ritual of the Reformed Church. Wishart dispensed the Holy Eucharist in the Castle of St Andrews to the friends and servants of the governor immediately before he was fixed to the stake at which he was burned, in 1546; and Knox himself also administered the same ordinance at St Andrews in 1547. The account given by him in his *History of the Reformation* seems to imply that he performed the same service in the west country before he did so at Calder. We may in any case say it was one of the earliest administrations of the Sacrament in Scotland, according to the order of the Reformed Church, and the subject has been invested with an especial and pathetic interest in modern times, from its having formed the theme of Sir David Wilkie’s last great historical painting, which, indeed, the illustrious artist did not live to complete. The venerable face of the great reformer, and the reverent attitude of the armed warriors who are depicted as waiting upon his ministrations, give sufficient indication of the exalted conception which the painter had formed of this great event in the history of his native country.

The picture of John Knox is appropriately placed in the apartment before mentioned as the modern drawing-room, and on the opposite side

of the fireplace hangs a portrait of the unfortunate, if not the innocent object of his animadversions—Queen Mary. This appears to be an early copy of the Earl of Morton's picture of Queen Mary; it has inscribed upon it 'Io. Medina pinxit, 1753.' In addition to these works of art the gallery of family portraits includes many which are of interest either historically from the personages represented, or from the reputation of the artists who have executed them. The older pictures embrace examples of George Jamesone of Aberdeen, Allan Ramsay, and other distinguished artists of bygone times, whilst of the more modern portraits several are from the easels of Sir Henry Raeburn, Sir John Watson Gordon, and Ary Scheffer. As the pictures have not been catalogued, the following chronological list of the more important works may be interesting.

1.\* JAMES, LORD ST. JOHN, first Lord Torphichen, Preceptor of Torphichen Priory; died 1579.

2.\* JOHN SANDILANDS of Calder, elder brother of the last-mentioned; died about 1565.

3.\* SIR JAMES SANDILANDS of Slamannan, Tutor of Calder, Gentleman of the Household of James VI., etc.; died about 1615. The knight is portrayed in armour. Painted by Jamesone, "the Scottish Vandyke."

4. WALTER, 6TH LORD TORPHICHEN, a supporter of the Revolution of 1688; died 1656.

5. ANNE, daughter of Alexander, 6th Lord Elphinstone, third wife of the 6th Lord as above; married 1671.

6. ALEXANDER, MASTER OF ELPHINSTONE, brother of the last-mentioned; d. s. p 1669.

7. CHRISTIAN PRIMROSE, fourth wife of the sixth Lord Torphichen.

8. JAMES, 7TH LORD TORPHICHEN, Lieut.-Col., 7th Dragoon Guards. Present at Sheriffmuir, etc. Died at Calder House, 1753.

9. LADY JEAN HUME, wife of the last-mentioned, and daughter of Patrick, 1st Earl Marchmont; died 1751, *aet.* 69.

10. *Another Portrait* of the same lady.

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\* These three portraits are less satisfactorily identified than the items which follow. Nos. 1 and 2 are labelled as representing the first Lord Torphichen and his brother, but which is which is not stated. No. 3 has simply the name "Sir James Sandilands," but looking at the date of the artist's work (Jamesone was born about 1587 and died in 1644) we think we are probably correct in thus attaching this portrait.



11. SIR PATRICK HUME, 1st Earl Marchmont, Lord Chancellor, father of Lady Torphichen. A distinguished figure at the Revolution.

12. *Another Portrait* of the same nobleman when more advanced in years.

13. GRIZEL, daughter of Sir Thomas Ker of Cavers, Countess Marchmont, the portrait forming a pair with No 11.

14. ALEXANDER, 2ND EARL MARCHMONT, brother of the Lady Torphichen, attired in cuirass; died 1740.

15. SIR ANDREW HUME, Lord Kimmergham, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, another brother of Lady Torphichen.

16. HON. JAMES SANDILANDS, Master of Torphichen; died unmarried 1749. The officer is depicted in uniform with the loss of his left hand and other wounds received at the battle of Preston, 1745.

17. WALTER, 8TH LORD TORPHICHEN, advocate, Sheriff-depute for co. Edinburgh; died at Calder House, 1765.

18. ELIZABETH SANDILANDS, LADY TORPHICHEN; died at Calder House, 1779.

19. DR ALEXANDER SANDILANDS, M.D., physician to the British hospital in Flanders, father of the above-mentioned Lady Torphichen; died at Calder House, 1759.

20. MRS SANDILANDS, wife of the last-mentioned.

21. MAJOR THE HON. ANDREW SANDILANDS. Fought at Dettingen and Fontenoy in the 21st regiment; died at Contentibus, 1776. He is portrayed in uniform. Painted by Allan Ramsay.

22. CAPT. THE HON. ROBERT SANDILANDS, brother of the 8th Lord; died at Contentibus, 1791.

23. GRIZEL, daughter of Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn, wife of Capt. Sandilands last-mentioned; died 1776.

24. JAMES, 9TH LORD TORPHICHEN, Lieut. Colonel Coldstream Guards; died 1815. Painted by Sir Henry Raeburn.

25. ANNE, LADY TORPHICHEN, daughter of Sir John Inglis of Cramond, Bart., wife of the last-mentioned. Painted by Sir Henry Raeburn.

26. HON. ALEXANDER SANDILANDS, brother of the 9th Lord; died unmarried, 1806.

27. HON. WALTER SANDILANDS, brother of the last.
28. HON. HUGH SANDILANDS, brother of the last ; died at Madras of wounds received in battle, 1782.
29. JAMES, 10TH LORD TORPHICHEN ; died 1862. Painted by Ary Scheffer.
30. MARGARET DOUGLAS, LADY TORPHICHEN, daughter of John Stirling of Kippendavie ; died 1836. Painted by Drummond.
31. ROBERT, 11TH LORD TORPHICHEN, Capt. 3rd regt. Scots Guards ; died 1869. Painted by Sir John Watson Gordon.
32. SANDILANDS OF CRABSTONE, Co. Aberdeen, being the first of the family who settled in the north. Dated 1633.
33. A second SANDILANDS OF CRABSTONE, with armorial shield in the corner.

Besides these family portraits there are the pictures of Knox and Queen Mary already alluded to, and a beautiful portrait by Ramsay of Willielma Maxwell, Lady Glenorchy, the pious foundress of the church in Edinburgh which bears her name. This picture appears to have been painted about



Fig. 6.—The Ancient Gateway.

the time of her ladyship's marriage, which was the year 1761. Also several large canvasses depicting Calder House and Calder Church in

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various aspects, of date about the commencement of the present century ; a large view of Linlithgow Palace executed before the fire ; and portraits of David second Earl of Buchan, of James, Duke of Ormonde, depicted in armour, and of Mrs Mulys.

In addition to the old and extensive library belonging to the mansion, a valuable collection of books and MSS., including a diary or commonplace-book in the holograph of John Knox, was bequeathed to his present lordship by his aunt, Mrs Ramsay, and now forms an attractive feature amongst the treasures of Calder House.

The approach to the mansion in ancient times was by way of the iron gate which still stands at the head of the village on the Edinburgh and Glasgow road. Upon the frieze of the pillars of this gateway are carved the crown and thistle from the arms of the Knights of St John, and the stars and heart of Douglas ; the same emblems in beaten ironwork formerly surmounted the scroll above the gate. The date 1660 is carved on the inside of one of the pillars. In the garden is an ancient sundial of elaborate and ingenious design, possessing as many as forty-one gnomons on its many facettes. There is no date upon it, but it belongs to the same type as the dial at Dundas Castle, which is dated 1623, and to one at Pitreavie, 1644. In the opinion of Mr Ross, who has devoted much study to the subject, it was constructed about the middle of the seventeenth century. This dial being broken and cast aside at some unknown period, it was repaired and placed upon a new pillar and octagonal base by its present noble proprietor.

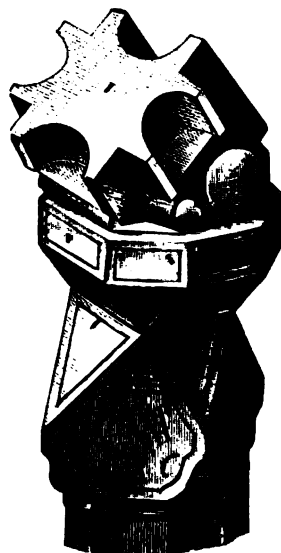


Fig. 7.—Sundial at Calder House.

To pass now to a review of the noble House of Sandilands in its various generations, there seems to be little doubt that the surname is taken from their earliest possession, the lands of Sandilands, in the upper ward of Clydesdale, which were held by them of the Douglasses in the early half of the 14th century. We know them first, to use a favourite metaphor of the peerage-writers, not in the source but in the stream, not

in the welling spring but in the rushing torrent—that is to say their pedigree ascends not to the first of the race who by his prowess or mag-



Fig. 8.—View of Calder House from NE.

nanimity raised himself above the vulgar, but at the period when we first become acquainted with it, the House of Sandilands was already of great consideration and importance.

I.—SIR JAMES SANDILANDS, the first of whom we have notice, was a distinguished vassal of William, Earl of Douglas, in the early half of the 14th century. He obtained a grant of lands in the county of Peebles from David II. in the year 1336; was possessed also of the barony of Wiston in Lanarkshire, and on 18th December 1348 had confirmation of his lands of Sandilands and Reidmyre, lying within the lordship of Douglasdale, from William, Lord Douglas. He was one of the attendants chosen by Sir William Douglas to accompany him to London in 1347 in the train of King David II.; and was employed by that monarch on several important missions during his retirement in England. Thus on 2nd October 1347, Edward III. gives a safe conduct to James of Sandyland with two others to come to England, bringing necessities to Sir William Douglas, then a prisoner in the Tower of London; and in the month of April following there is a permit for James of Sandylandes and Andrew of Ormestoun being then in London to return to Scotland, and come back if need be with four companions on

horseback, to endure until 1st September following. The object of their journey appears to have been to bring supplies for King David, who in the month of August petitions the English Chancellor for an extension of time, saying, as King Edward and his councillors gave orders that the petitioner should live at his own charges [*qe ieo vive du meen*], the late Chancellor, whom God assoil, granted a safe conduct to some of his people to bring him sustenance, which is nearly expired, and begging him accordingly to prolong the same for James of Sandilandes, John of Kyncardyn and Andrew of Ormestoun, his people, to come to him wherever he is in England until Pentecost next to come. Sandilands must have arrived in London very shortly after this, as he was, on 22nd October 1348, again dispatched to Scotland in company with Maurice Cowal, as bearer of the King's letters of truce and cessation from hostilities. On 28th June 1349, he had another safe conduct to travel from Scotland to London, to wait upon William of Douglas, still confined in the Tower. He married Eleanor, sister of William, first Earl of Douglas, and widow of Archibald Bruce, Earl of Carrick, and, as we have already seen, received the barony of Calder in free marriage with her. The original charter, which is preserved in Lord Torphichen's charter-chest, is undated, but must be between the years 1346 and 1349. Douglas appends his seal thereto, and the witnesses include the venerable father in Christ, Thomas, by the mercy of God Abbot of the Holy Cross of Edynburgh, Lord David de Lyndesay, Lord of Crawford, Sir Richard Small, rector of the church of Ratho, and many others. The subjects conveyed were the whole barony of Westir-caldor and the whole toun of Bengowre in *vice comitatu de Edynburgh* with all liberties and easments, patronage of churches, multures and mills, with service and homage of free tenants, etc., to be freely and quietly enjoyed by James of Sandylandis and Dame Elionor de Brys, but with provision that if they die without issue, the foresaid barony and lands are to revert to the lord of Douglas. This grant was confirmed by Duncan, Earl of Fife, by a charter to which his seal is appended, some time in the year 1350; and there are several ratifications of the transaction by King David II., the first of which is at Dundee 15th May 1351. A second confirmation by the same monarch is dated at Breychyne 28th February 1353, seal wanting; and a third,

which has the seal appended, though imperfect, is dated at Edinburgh 20th January 1357. Sir James Sandilands died in 1358, and his widow had a safe conduct for herself and four maids, with ten horses, to pass to the parts of England, on pilgrimage to the shrines of the Saints,\* dated at Westminster 14th May 1358.

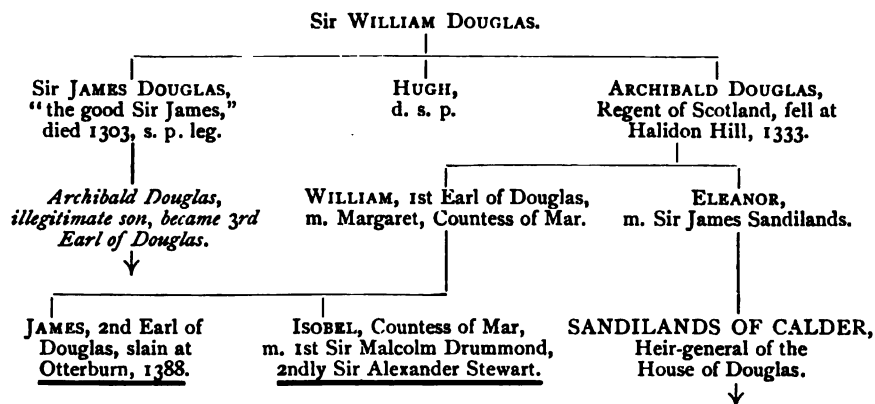
II.—SIR JAMES SANDILANDS, of Calder, the son and successor of the last-mentioned, had permission from Edward III., 5th June 1358, granted at the request of Joana, the King's sister, to come from Scotland into England for the purpose of pursuing his studies at Durham; and in this grant he is designed James, son of James of Sandylands, clerk. His name is mentioned in various charters of Robert II. between 1373 and 1383, which are quoted in Douglas' Peerage, and more particularly detailed in the Register of the Great Seal. In the last-mentioned year, he obtained in marriage the hand of the Princess Jean, lawful daughter of Robert II. and widow of Sir John Lyon of Glamis, the King's secretary and afterwards chamberlain, who was assassinated in 1382. There is a charter from this monarch 4th November (no date given, but apparently 1383) to James Sandilands of Caldor, knight *et Johanne, filii nostre karrissime* whom he is to marry; and again on the 30th November 1384 the baronies of Dalziel, Modirvale and Wiston, with the lands of Erthbisset, Slamannan and Ochtirbank were confirmed *dilecto et fidei nostro Jacobo de Sandyland militi*, on his own resignation, to be held by the said James and Johana, our dearest daughter and their heirs. We find further that in the reign of Robert III. George Dalzell had a charter of the barony of Dalzell, on the resignation of Sir James Sandylandis, the King's good-brother.

On 19th June 1389, there is a special protection granted by Richard II. of England for Sir James Sandilands, Knight, to come to his court with a retinue of forty men, armed or unarmed, and also special protection and warrandice for his lands of Caldor, les Sandylans and others, including the Kirk of Neweton and the parson's manor there. As Sir Malcolm Drummond had at the same time a special protection for his lands (Douglas lands, brought to him by his wife Isobel, Countess of Mar) with leave to come to the King of England, it is probable that the matter

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\* Literally to the thresholds of the Saints. The pilgrimage was probably to Canterbury. In the case of a pious journey to Rome, *ad limina apostolorum*—to the thresholds of the Apostles—is the expression used.

concerned the Douglas succession. This was the year following the battle of Otterburn, where James, the second Earl of Douglas, was slain, which caused the extinction of the legitimate male line of the Douglasses, the earldom going by virtue of special entail to Archibald, Lord of Galloway, natural son of the "good Sir James." Between Eleanor Douglas and her first husband Alexander Bruce, Earl of Carrick, who was slain at Halidon Hill, 1333, there was no surviving issue; so that upon the death of Isobel, Countess of Mar, only sister of James, the second Earl, who left no issue to either of her husbands, Sir James Sandilands of Calder became heir-at-law, and sole representative of the legitimate line of the House of Douglas. This may be, with convenience, illustrated in tabular form, thus:—



We here perceive the steps by which this august inheritance came to vest in the House of Calder, in virtue of which to the present Baron Torphichen belongs the high genealogical pretension of being heir of line of the heroic race of Douglas. At the period to which we are alluding, after the death of the second earl, dissensions arose regarding the succession to the unentailed estates and that portion of the Douglas inheritance destined to heirs-general, and the succeeding Sir James Sandilands, as having presumptive right thereto, obtained a deed from Robert III., in which he is designed the King's nephew, forbidding the alienation of any portion of the lands. It appears, however, that the superior power and influence of the Douglasses rendered ineffectual the

protection which the Sovereign desired to afford, and the same Sir James was prevailed upon a few years later, for some consideration which does not appear, to make a renunciation of his rights, as regarded the property, in favour of George, Earl of Angus, natural son of William, first Earl of Douglas, and Margaret Stewart, Countess of Angus; and this was confirmed by a Royal Charter 9th November 1397. He did even more than this. He granted to the earl and his mother a lease for five years of his castle of Calder, and appointed him also tutor to his son, and guardian of his castle and barony of Calder and his lands in general. So bears a charter yet preserved by which Jamys of Sandylandy's lord of Caldor greeting in God ay lestand, by the counsel of his kyn and friendis commitis his son and heir together with his barounry and castel of Caldor in the kinryk of Scotland to the keeping of a nobil man to quylk I am of kyn, George of Douglas erle of Angous—to be tutor and executor to the said heir after the granter's decease. Dated 15th May 1397, and confirmed by the King 9th November following.

George Earl of Angus married the Princess Mary, daughter of Robert III., so that apart from his Douglas descent he stood in this relationship to Sir James Sandilands that his wife was the niece of the Lady of Calder. Besides the foregoing notices of this Sir James, we observe a safe conduct for him to pass through England, with sixty persons of Scotland in his train, dated at Westminster 22nd October 1392; and Sir James Sandilandy's of Caldor witnesses two charters of Robert Duke of Albany in the years 1407 and 1409.

III.—SIR JAMES SANDILANDS of Calder, the son of the preceding Sir James, is designed the King's nephew in various charters of Robert III. Jacobus Sandiland, Dominus de Caldor, was one of the hostages for James I. when he was allowed to visit Scotland 31st May 1421, and, three years later, we find permission granted to him and to other nobles and barons to meet the King of Scots in the city of Durham, dated the 3rd of February in the second of Henry VI., being the year 1424, the safe conduct to endure until 30th April next ensuing. On the 28th March in the same year, James, lord of Caldor, one of the hostages for the Scottish Sovereign, delivered 400 merks to the English ambassadors at Durham; and on 21st May, King Henry VI. orders Sir Richard Hastynges, Knight, constable



of Knaresburgh, to deliver James of Caldor and other hostages under the treaty with the King of Scots to Robert Scot, lieutenant of the Constable of the Tower of London. Sandilands asks for safe conduct for Walter Daniel, James of Parkley, John of Werk and three servants to accompany him. He is mentioned as deceased at 7th December 1426, when confirmation under the Great Seal was given of a charter in his favour of the barony of Erthbisset, in the county of Stirling, granted by the Regent Albany in the year 1422. Jonet, his wife, is mentioned in the same charter, but to which family she belonged does not appear. They had two sons, namely, Sir John of Calder, and James, who witnesses a charter 7th July, 1434, and was assassinated along with his nephew near to Dumbarton 21st August 1451.

IV.—SIR JOHN SANDILANDS of Calder succeeded about the year 1426, and was formally infeft in the lands and barony of Calder on a precept from the Earl of Douglas, as superior, in the year 1437. In the Exchequer Rolls we see a grant of customs to John de Sandilandis de Caldore in 1447; and Nisbet mentions a charter of the year 1466, granted apparently by this baron, to his eldest son and heir Sir James Sandilands and Margaret his wife, to which an armorial seal was appended "having a shield couche with two coats, quarterly 1st and 4th a bend for Sandilands, 2nd and 3rd a man's heart, and on a chief three stars for Douglas, which shield is timbred with an helmet and thereupon for crest a head and neck of a horse, and having only one supporter on the left, namely a lady holding the helmet and crest, which I did see in the custody of Mr Crawford, author of the peerage." Sir John de Sandilandis, lord of Caldour, is mentioned together with his son and grandson in the years 1478 and 1481, and he appears as defender in a civil cause in the month of December 1482. He is stated to have married Christian Dundas, second daughter of James Dundas of Dundas, and he had two sons, John and James, and a daughter Alison, married to Sir Alexander Boswell of Balmuto, who fell at Flodden, 1513. John, the elder son, was assassinated when only twenty years of age, with his uncle James Sandilands, by Patrick Thornton, a secret favourer of the Douglas faction, who was apprehended and executed after trial. The crime, which was of political rather than personal import, on account of the adherence of the

family to King James II., was committed near Dumbarton, on the 21st August 1451.

V.—SIR JAMES SANDILANDS of Calder, the second but eldest surviving son of the last-mentioned, appears as *fiar* of Calder in the years 1466 and 1478, and was still "son and appearand heir of Schir John Sandilandis, lord of Caldour" in October 1481. The exact date of his father's demise has not been ascertained, but in 1487 Sir James Sandilands of Calder sat in parliament, from which we may conclude that the venerable Sir John Sandilands who had held the barony for about sixty years was by this time gathered to his fathers. On 7th May 1489 the King's lettres are directed to the Lard of Calder and others to warn thaim to cum to ryde with the King. Sir James Sandilands had a charter of certain lands in Fife from John de Kinloch, lord of Crove, to him and to Dame Mergarete de Kinloch, his wife, in liferent, and to John de Sandilands their son and apparent heir in fee, dated at Inverkeithing, 3rd July 1478. Sir James subsequently married Margaret Ker, daughter of Andrew Ker of Auldtounburn, who is mentioned as his spouse in a Crown charter of the lands of Erthbisset 14th July 1489. She survived her husband, and was living in 1509, being then the wife of William, Earl of Errol. This baron had three sons, namely John and James, who clearly were the children of his first wife Margaret Kinloch, and the Rev. Peter, rector of Calder in 1526 and until 1546, who appears to have been born of the second wife, Margaret Ker. The eldest son, John, predeceased his father, leaving an infant son, who according to the provision would succeed to the Kinloch inheritance; and it seems that Sir James Sandilands had settled the Calder estates upon his second son. An arrangement was however effected in after years by which James, the second son, gave up to his nephew the barony of Calder and other baronies and lands, receiving from him the lands of Cruvie with mansion-house, etc., in the county of Fife. This transaction was confirmed by James IV. 7th July 1509.

VI.—JOHN SANDILANDS, the eldest son, is mentioned in 1478 in the charter by his grandfather, John Kinloch of Cruvie, to which allusion has already been made. He married Elizabeth, daughter of James Skrymgeour, lord of Dudhope, in the county of Forfar, who held the office of Constable of Dundee. There is a charter, dated 15th October 1481, of

a portion of the lands of Dudup and the lands of Southbello in Perthshire to him and to the said Elizabeth his wife, in which he is designed son and appearand heir of Schir James de Sandilandis, Kt., the son and appearand heir of Schir John de Sandilandis, lord of Caldour. He died during the lifetime of his father, leaving an only son.

VII.—SIR JAMES SANDILANDS of Calder.—This eminent personage, who made a distinguished figure in the history of his country, was born about the year 1482. After the death of his grandfather, Sir James Sandilands, he resigned the Cruvie estates in Fife to his father's younger brother in exchange for the barony of Calder and other patrimonial lands which thus came to descend in the main stem of the family. This was in the year 1509; and on 23rd August 1510, he and Marion Forrester, his wife, had a charter of the lands of Slamannan and other subjects on the resignation of his said uncle. Again, in 1513, the King confirms to him half the lands of Dudhope assigned by the late James Skrimgeour, Constable of Dundee, to the late John Sandilands, his father. The notices of his early career are not numerous, but we observe a remission granted to Sir James Sandelandis, of Caldor, Knight, and thirteen others for the cruel slaughter of James Somerville, committit on forethought felony, dated 2nd July 1526. Whether in relation or not to this or other misdeeds into which the baron may have been led by the turbulent spirit of the times, it is noticeable that, some few months later, he made a pilgrimage to Rome. So bears an entry in the Register of the Privy Seal.

Ane lettre to James Sandelandis of Caldor, Knycht, ratifiand the licence gevin him afore to pas for the completing of his pilgrimage at Rome, and ratifiand siclike the dispositioun maid be him of his sonis mariage. At Edinburgh the last day of Aprile the zeir before written [1527].

His visit at this time to the Papal See is rendered worthy of remark in connection with the prominent part which he subsequently took in the reformation of religion in this country. We observe the names of the Lairds of Calder and of Ormestoun included in a scroll of heretics presented by Cardinal Beaton to James V. in 1542, and Dr M'Crie, in his *Life of Knox*, points to Sir James Sandilands as one of the few in the higher ranks of society who as early as the year 1540 were numbered amongst the converts to the reformed doctrines. The early period at

which he embraced the principles of the Reformation certainly renders his name worthy of higher consideration in this regard. It has often been alleged that the desire of sharing the rich spoils of the Catholic Church, together with the political intrigues of the Court of England, engaged a great number on the side of Protestantism, nor can we doubt that at a later period these influences did operate largely with the Scottish nobles ; but at the time of which we now speak the prospect of overturning the established religion was far too remote to induce any who had no other than avaricious motives to take a step which exposed their lives and fortunes to the greatest hazard.

On 13th March 1541, there is a remission to Sir James Sandilandis of Calder, for his treasonably resetting umqle Archibald Douglas of Kilspindy and his servants, traitors and rebels at the horn, and for taking two horses from the said Archibald. Two years later we find him brought into some difficulty by Master James Drummond, his son-in-law, a favourite of Henry VIII., and recommended by him for the Secretaryship for Scotland. Drummond, it appears, had sought Sir Ralph Sadleyr, the English Ambassador at Edinburgh, and had represented to him that the person of the young Queen of Scots was in danger at the hands of the Governor Arran, which circumstance he stated to have been communicated to him by Sir James Sandilands. In his diplomatic correspondence, which is preserved at the British Museum, Sadleyr declares that he discredits the story, "yet has resolved to speak with Calder, who lives about twelve miles from Edinburgh, even if he should have to ride there for the purpose." Sir James denied having made any such statement and the truth of it, giving the ambassador no complimentary account of his son-in-law, whom he calls a "perillous and dangerous person." Sir Ralph Sadleyr reports further in the matter to the English Privy Council on the 8th July 1543, as follows :—

It may like your good Lordships to understand that sythens the writing of my last letters I have spoken with Syr James Sandel'yns Laird of Calder, Drummond's father-in-law, and have communed with him of such matter as the said Drummond declared unto the King's Majesty, touching the unsurety and danger that the young Queen here should be in by means of the Governor, which I do find to be utterly untrue.

He goes on to describe Sir James Sandilands as of good reputation—"a

grave and wyse personage and of such honestie and trouthe" as would not have concealed such a matter under any fear of the Governor, nor for any other reason. He further says that the laird of Calder came to him again on the day following their interview, wishing the subject further inquired into, and was with difficulty persuaded to suppress the matter "until he shuld here agayne from the Kynges majestie in that parte, the said Sandelyns offeryng himselfe to dye in the querele that the saide Drummonde had falselie belyd bothe the Governour and hym."

During this year, as is well known, the English Ambassador was intriguing on behalf of his royal master with a view to attaching to his interest as many of the Scottish nobles and barons who, from aversion to the Catholic cause or for other reasons, might be supposed likely to unite in Henry's contemplated expedition to France; and Crichton of Brunston was employed by Sadleyr to negotiate the matter in this locality. This gentleman reported that he had convened his neighbour Sandelands of Calder with some sixteen others who had refused offers of money and pensions to be friends of France, and concludes "that it is nedeful that the Kinge wryte to the Larde of Calder (for as he doth so wyl al the rest doo), how that his majestie hath understand that he and certayne frendes of his is wylling to be of the nombre of the Kingis majesteis frendes, thankyng him therfore, and further as pleasith his majestie to wryte." This communication is dated 26 November 1543. It appears however that the family of Calder, however zealous in the cause of religion, was not to be drawn into political intrigue; and when the conflict between the Scots and English occurred at Ancrum Moor, on 11th March 1544, Sir James Sandilands' elder son bore arms for his own country. The Earl of Shrewsbury in reporting the affair to Henry VIII. declares himself to be credibly informed that the young laird of Calder (who was a man of good reputation in Scotland) and two other gentlemen named Logan were slain, with divers others of the Scottish partie. This was a mistake as regards Sandilands; and we see that the English Privy Council had not then relinquished the hope of attracting the family to their side, for a dispatch to the Earl of Hertford, dated 24th April, 1544, bears that the Laird of Calder, father and son, and the Laird of Ormestoun are to have their lands and goods spared, if they will join the English army.

A striking illustration of the chivalrous feelings and sentiments of the age occurs in the year 1557. Queen Mary, having ordained a yearly taxation for waging men of war, and ordered an inventory of every man's estate to that effect, the Lords for the most part assented thereto, but the barons, about 200 in number, commissioned Sir James Sandilands of Calder and John Weems of Easter Weems to remonstrate with the Queen and the Lords, representing that it was ignominious to wage soldiers, as if they were not able to defend the country themselves, as their ancestors; that it would be dangerous to commit the defence of the country to hirelings; and that it was against King Robert the Bruce his advice who warned the nobility never to keep long truce with England "lest the subjectis throw laziness sould become unfitt for the warres."

We have said that Sir James was engaged in several important negotiations connected with the establishment of Protestantism in Scotland. Some ambiguity has obtained, however, amongst historians of the Reformation who have adverted to the family of Calder, by their having confused the persons of the venerable baron Sir James Sandilands; his eldest son John Sandilands, upon whom he conferred the fee of his estate in 1526; and his second son Sir James Sandilands of Torphichen, Lord St. John. We shall therefore indicate briefly the principal missions upon which each of these personages was employed at this time. The old baron was the early and intimate friend of John Knox, who in his "Historie" refers to him as one who had long been a sincere friend to the reformed cause, and had contributed much to its preservation in this part of the country. Knox had his residence at Calder House, as we have already seen, in the year 1556; and when in the spring of 1558 the reformers sent to solicit the aid of the Queen Regent to a "godlie reformatioun" Sir James Sandilands was chosen to present their petition to Her Majesty. "We appointed from among us," says John Knox, "a man whose age and years deserved reverence, whose honesty and worship might have craved an audience of any magistrate on earth, and whose faithful service to the authority at all times had been such that upon him could fall no suspicion of unlawful disobedience. This Oratour was that auncient and honourable father Schir James Sandelandes of Calder, Knycht, to whom we geve commissioun and power in all our names then present befor the Quein Regent thus to speak," etc.

The baron of Calder died in the month of December 1559, and could not have been far short of eighty years of age. He married Marion Forrester, only daughter of Archibald Forrester of Corstorphine, who is mentioned as his wife in various charters of the year 1509, etc., and died in March 1562. Besides their two sons John and James, to both of whom we shall presently revert, they had several daughters, all mentioned in their father's will, namely Alison, who married Sir John Cockburn of Ormistoun, a staunch promoter of the Reformation. She is mentioned in a charter of the lands of Ormistoun, 5th February 1545, and was still living in 1584 when the treatise called *The Confession of Faith* was dedicated to her—"to the Honourable and vertuous Ladie, Alison Sandilands, Lady of Hormistoun." There is a process also in the Acts and Decreits of the year 1566-7, affecting dame Elisone Sandilands, lady Ormistoun and Jhone Cockburn of Ormistoun, her spouse. A second daughter, Margaret, was twice married, firstly to Sir James Dundas of Dundas, with whom she had a charter from the Queen of the lands of Blairmukis and Pakstane in Lanarkshire dated 28th June 1551. The laird of Dundas died in the latter part of the year 1553, after which Margaret became the second wife of William Wauchope of Niddry Marischal. The third daughter Agnes, married Mr James Drummond, concerning whom King Henry VIII. wrote as follows to the Earl of Arran, Governor of Scotland :—

1542-3, *March* 13—Right trusty and right welbilovit cousin we grete youe wel. Lating youe wit that having perfite knowlege howe that uppon certain good causes and matiers touching Syr Thomas Erskin late secretary there, it hath ben thought mete to youe and the rest of your counsail to discharge him of his office of the secretari-ship, we have thought good at thumble sute of our trusty and welbilovet servant Master James Dromonde, by thise our special lettres to recomende him unto youe to be preferred to the same office, whom we certainly judge to be a man so qualified in all thingis as is mete for the same ; instantly therfor requiring youe as youe entende to shew yourself desirous to ministre unto us gratuitie and pleasure to satisfie our request in this behaulf, which we assure youe we shall take in most kinde and thankful parte accordinglie.

VIII.—JOHN SANDILANDS of Calder, the elder son of the foregoing, was, like his father, an ardent promoter of the Reformation. When George Wishaw was taken prisoner by the Earl of Bothwell in January 1546 Sandilands, together with the Laids of Ormestoun and Brunestoun, were present with him at the time of his arrest. Cardinal Beaton, on

learning this, sent to have them all apprehended, but, we are told, the young men on the approach of the soldiers "maid fayr countenance and entreated the gentlemen to tack a drynk," and so obtained a delay during which Brunestoun escaped. Calder and Ormestoun, however, were warded in Edinburgh Castle, from which the latter escaped by leaping over a wall, between ten and eleven o'clock in the forenoon; but according to Knox's "Historie" the young laird of Calder remained in ward until his band to the Cardinal was the means of his deliverance. An entry quoted by Pitcairn, on the other hand, seems to imply that Ormestoun and Calder escaped together.

1546, *March 29*—James Lawsons of Hieriggis found caution to underly the law for art and part of the assistance afforded to William (*sic*) Cokburne of Ormestoun and the young laird of Calder in breaking their ward furth of the Castle of Edinburgh.

At the same time caution was exacted from Sandilands that he should enter within the Castle of Edinburgh, on twenty-four hours' warning being given him to do so. But this was, a few months later, suspended in order to allow of his taking a journey to France, as the following letter under the hand of the Governor bears—

1546, *September 29*—"Forsamekill as our louit Johnne Sandelandis zounge lard of Caldour, fand souirtie to entir in warde" whenever charged, and now we have given and granted our Lettres of Licence to the said John to pass to the parts of France, and there remain a certain space, as the said Licence more fully purports, now the former act is to haue na strength during the said Johnnis remaining bezond sey, but alanerlie eftir his returning agane within ye realme of Scotland.

We meet with him in June 1559, again in company with Cockburn of Ormestoun and others from Lothian, rising with their followers to support the Earl of Argyll and Lord James Stewart in the defence of the city of St Andrews against the party of the Queen. This was within a few months of his succession to the chiefship of the house of Calder, which, however, he did not live long to enjoy. He died between March 1565 and 19th March 1566, aged about sixty years. He married firstly, Margaret Bartoun, daughter of Sir Robert Bartoun of Over Barntoun, High Treasurer of Scotland, in 1529 and 1530, and Master of the Cuinzie House (Mint), by whom he had an only son, James Sandilands, afterwards of Calder, to whom we shall presently revert. The marriage contract is dated 11th June 1524, and is preserved



amongst the archives of the Lords Torphichen ; the family arrangements on the occasion were somewhat singular, according to our ideas—the lands of Blackhall and others being conceded to the said Margaret by old Sir James Sandilands, in contemplation of the marriage to be contracted by her with John Sandilands his son and apparent heir, whom failing by decease, then with James Sandilands, his second son. The laird of Calder's second wife was Jean Fleming, daughter of John, Lord Fleming, who survived him, and subsequently married again to David Crawford of Kerse. She was the mother of Sir James Sandilands of Slamannan, who became tutor to his nephew the minor laird of Calder. Besides these two sons, John Sandilands had three daughters, who are all named in the testaments of their grandparents, recorded in 1567, viz.: Margaret, married to James Tennent of Linhouse ; Euphame ; and Mary, who in 1574 became the wife of Joseph Douglas of Pumpherston.

We here leave for a moment the direct line of succession of the house of Calder, to notice the career of Sir James Sandilands, Lord St John, the younger brother of the foregoing, and in whose person the family became ennobled, as the expression goes. This Sir James Sandilands seems at an early period in life to have embraced the profession of arms, for, according to Buchanan the historian, he was despatched in the year 1532 to Hermitage Castle to check the incursions of freebooters. For several years after this he had his residence at Malta, then the seat of the Fraternity of Military Ecclesiastics, known as the Knights Hospitallers, or Knights of St John of Jerusalem, and whilst here he gave such proofs of his ability and qualifications that he was elected by the Chapter a Knight of the Order, and subsequently, on the recommendation of Walter, Lord St John, the Principal of the Hospitallers in Scotland, was nominated his future successor in that office by the Grand Master of the Order. Thus, on the death of Sir Walter Lindsay, Sir James Sandilands was vested in the title and jurisdiction of Lord St John of Jerusalem in Scotland, and Preceptor of Torphichen Priory, by a bull dated at Malta 2nd April 1547. In common with the rest of his house, he espoused the principles of Protestantism, and abjured the tenets of his Order ; and when, as a necessary consequence of the Reformation, the religious fraternity over which he presided was suppressed together with all similar ecclesiastical

establishments, he resigned the Lordship into the hands of the Queen, who was pleased "in consideration of services rendered to her and her royal parents by her domestic servant James, lord of St John," to allow him to retain as personal honours "all the privileges, dignities, offices and regalities in old time possessed by the said James and his predecessors in the Preceptorate of Torphechin ;" and to confer upon him the possessions which had formerly belonged to the Knights Hospitallers, upon payment of 10,000 crowns of the sun, and 500 merks of yearly feu-duty. In another portion of this work, we have given some few particulars of the ancient order of religious Knighthood in Scotland which thus passed away, but we may here briefly notice the origin and nature of the peerage which now came into and has ever since descended in the family of Calder. The dignity of Lord St John of Jerusalem (afterwards abbreviated to Lord St John of Torphichen or Lord Torphichen), was originally conferred by James IV. upon Sir William Knollys, who was Preceptor of Torphichen and Lord High Treasurer of Scotland in 1492, holding also other important offices of state, the title to devolve upon his successors in office. This distinguished personage died about 1517, and was succeeded in the Preceptorate by Sir George Dundas, who thus became Lord St John ; and he in turn was succeeded by Sir Walter Lindsay of the noble family of Crawford and Lindsay, at whose death the dignity descended, as we have seen, to Sir James Sandilands. The Lords St John in ancient times possessed a singular, half-cleric, half-lay character. They derived their appointment from the Grand Master of the Order at Rhodes or Malta, but were confirmed in the temporal Lordship of Torphichen by the King ; and in the records of parliament they are sometimes assigned a place amongst the abbots and dignified clergy, and sometimes amongst the territorial barons. Thus, in 1489, Lord St John held the position of premier baron, immediately after the earls, and in 1526 we see him classed amongst the spiritual lords as a dignitary of the Church. In the decret of ranking of the nobility in 1606, he is placed next to Lord Boyd. The charter of Queen Mary, which is dated 24th January 1563-4, makes no new creation, but confirms merely the estates and dignity to Sir James Sandilands. As the original title therefore was never *personal*, but had been attached by immemorial usage to the fief (like the Earldom of Arundel in England,

which is held to be vested in the inheritance of the Castle and Lordship of Arundel) so the title of Lord St John of Torphichen became a *territorial* honour inherent in the possession of certain acres of land adjacent to the ancient Preceptory of Torphichen. Of the many fair baronies which at this time were bestowed upon the house of Calder, all have been gradually alienated, and much of the barony of Torphichen itself has been at different times conveyed to various persons, nothing being now retained by the family in that district beyond the small parcel of land lying around the church, which probably constituted the original patrimony of the founders of the Order of St John in Scotland, and in which the title is vested. In the year 1633, upon the resumption by Charles I. of the superiority of all church lands, John, Lord Torphichen, felt apprehensive that his rights as the successor of a religious order might be prejudiced thereby, and after petitioning parliament, he obtained an award of His Majesty, following a resolution of the Privy Council which was to have the force of an Act of Parliament, that the resumption should be held in no degree to encroach upon the superiorities of the barony of Torphichen in Linlithgowshire, within "that mean portione thereof quharin does subsist the title and dignity of Lords of Parliament, and to quhilk the title of Lord of parliament is annexit." We see therefore that the peerage of Torphichen is in many respects distinctive and indeed unique in this country ; and as by the charter of 1563 the barony is destined to "heirs and assigns," so it follows, according to no less eminent an authority on peerage law than the late Mr John Riddell, that in the event of the succession opening to a female, that female would be Baroness Torphichen.

Lord St. John was a member of the Privy Council both of Queen Mary and James VI., his attendance in council being most frequent during the period 1545-1553. He was also amongst those present on the occasion of the coronation of the latter-named Monarch at Stirling 19th July 1567, when the "sward, sceptour and royall croun of this realme were presentit" by his colleagues Lord Lindsay of the Byres and Lord Ruthven. He was a man of exceptional talent, and was frequently employed in negotiations of the highest consequence both to the Church and the State. During the troubled years preceding 1560 he was dispatched on an embassy to Mary of Guise, and in the year 1559 was chosen by the parliament of Scotland

ambassador to the court of France, where however, he met with no very gracious reception, but was accused by the Cardinal of Lorraine of violating his obligations as a Knight of a Holy Order, by consenting to be the bearer of the propositions of heretics, and of stirring up an execrable rebellion, and he was accordingly dismissed without an answer.

After the dissolution of the religious house of which he was Principal, Lord Torphichen resided principally at Hallyards, the manor-place of his barony of Liston, where he died of apoplexy, at an advanced age, on the 26th September 1579. According to a complaint made by his widow to the Privy Council, his death may have been in part caused or accelerated by a warlike attack made upon the place of his domicile during his last illness :—

Complaint by Dame Jeane Murray, relict of James Lord Torphichin as follows : The barony of Listoun and especially the manor place and manse thereof called the Halyairdis belonged to her and her late husband conjointly until his decease, “quha deceisit in the said maner place the            day of September last bipast ; quhais possessioun wes hir possessioun, and hir possessioun his possessioun, be ressoun of the marriage lauchfullie contractit betuix thame.” Tho’ such is the fact, “nevertheles James Erll of Mortoun and utheris of his name hes in the moneth of September last bipast violentlie and perforce enterit in the said hous and intruisit thameselffis in possessioun thair of, input certane men of weare, bodin with gunnis, pistolettis and utheris armes invasive.” This they had done “the said Dame Jehannis husband being then on life and unabill to resist be ressoun of a deadlie seiknes of apoplexie quhilk tuk the haille strength of his body and use of his speiche frome him.” Moreover “a littil befor his deceis quhen scho come to gif him sic confort and consolatioun as ane spous aucht to hir husband, scho durst not do the same for feir of hir life, bot was compellit to reteir hir fra the said hous for the cause fairsaid, quhilk hous is yit occupiit and detenit be the said Erll.”—The lords remit the matter to be pursued before the judges.

We revert now to the main stem of the house of Calder, and notice—

IX.—Sir JAMES SANDILANDS of Calder, the only son of John Sandilands by his first wife Margaret Bartoun. The first allusion we observe to him as Baron of Calder is in the month of March 1565-6, a few months after his father’s death, when he is charged along with others to compeir befor the King and Quenis Majesteis within six days to answer to sic thingis as salbe laid to thair charge touching the murder of David Riccio. On 23rd August 1569 he unites with his uncle Johnne Cockbarne of Ormistoun as joint sureties for William Lauder of Haltoun that he shall restore

certain guidis taken from James Winrame of Gogar-milne according to the Lord Regent's decree; and again in July 1573 James Sandelandis of Calder is cautioner for Capitane Diones Pentland who had raised three hundred "wageit men of were" for service in the low countries of Flanders, that he should observe certain conditions, and commit no oppression—nor muster nor convene his men before their departure within sixteen miles of Stirling Castle, nor on the south side of the Forth. Item that thay sall na wayis serve with papistis againis the protestantis professouris of the Evangell of Jesus Chryst under the pain of five hundred merkis. Calder married Jean, daughter of James, 4th Lord Ross, and died in 1576, leaving an only son James, and a daughter Elizabeth, who became the wife of John Mowbray son of John Mowbray of Barnbogle. The testament dative of umqll ane ryt honorabill man Sir James Sandelandis off Calder Knyt, quha deceist intestat in Edinburgh upoun ye xvij day of februar the zeir of God 1576 zeris is gewin up be dame Jeane Ross lady Calder his relict and James lord Ross of haket her father, as tutors dative decerned to Elizabeth Sandelands lawful daughter to the defunct. The widow subsequently married to Harry Stewart of Craigiehall, whose wife she was in 1590.

X.—JAMES SANDILANDS of Calder, the son of the preceding James, was born about the year 1574, and was therefore of tender age when he succeeded to the possessions of his father, and to the estates and dignity of his great-uncle, Lord Torphichen, who died childless in 1579. According to the law of the period, by which minor heirs were under tutory of one of their nearest kinsmen of full age, we find his step-father, Harry Stewart, apparent of Craigiehall, mentioned as "tutor of Calder" in an undertaking by him that Dame Jehane Sempill, lady Ros shall not intromit with the teinds of the lands of Melville, "nor mak convocation of the Kingis leigis to that effect," dated 29th March 1585. He appears to have held the office of tutor no longer than November of the same year, when caution was given that he should render up the fortalice of Calder then in his custody; and thereafter Sir James Sandilands of Slamannan-muir, uncle of the young baron, is mentioned for many years as his tutor.

This redoubtable personage, who necessarily had the direction of the affairs of his young relative for a considerable number of years, made

a distinguished figure in the history of his time ; we cannot do more than notice some of the leading incidents of his career. It is a little remarkable that he and his half-brother—his father's eldest son—should both have been named James ; he is nevertheless very distinctly designed eldest son begotten of John Sandilands of Calder with Jean Flemyng his wife, in a charter of the lands of Slamannan-muir in his favour 27th May 1563. He figures somewhat frequently in the records during his early manhood, and appears to have been of a bold and warlike spirit, much attached to King James and the Protestant succession. In May 1589 we see Archibald Wauchop, younger of Niddry, at his trial for the slaughter of the laird of Shirefhall, escaped out of a window of the Tolbooth — “ Sir James Sandielandis, tutor of Calder being the cheefe man that assisted him to break waird.” Sandilands was present with James VI. at Holyrood House in December 1591, when Bothwell made his first attempt to capture the person of the King, and, according to Spottiswood's history, he took an active part for the protection of His Majesty on that occasion.

Bothwell made towards the Queen's rooms, says this historian, where he expected to find entry, and perceiving all shut upon him, called to bring fire. But ere they could find any, Sir James Sandilands, one of his Majesty's chamber entering by the church of Hali-rudhouse did beat him and his company from the doors, and was in possibility to have taken them all if there had been any lights, but these being all extinguished, Bothwell made shift in the dark and escaped.

Thereafter, adds Calderwood, Sandilands was dispatched by the king to advertise the Provost and citizens of Edinburgh. In the following June occurred Bothwell's second attempt, known as the raid of Falkland, and on the 27th of that month Sir James brought in to the King a number of border men implicated in the affair, especially Armstrongs, whom he had overtaken, of whom five were hanged, and the rest spared at the request of the Laird of Carmichael, “ becaus they were not ordinarie or usuall ryders.” In 1592 Sir James Sandilands, tutor of Calder, was capitane of Blackness Castle, and in the following year is designed “ Master Knight, gentleman of the chamber ” in an order to Robert Jamesoun, burghess of Ayr, to deliver to him 236 crowns of gold.

Our attention now lights upon a serious catastrophe which occurred in February 1592-3, and is unhappily illustrative of the manners of the

age. Dame Jean Murray, the widow of the first Lord Torphichen, whose pathetic appeal we have noticed regarding the circumstances attending the death of her husband, was a daughter of Murray of Polmaise. In 1584 she was the wife of Mr John Grahame of Hallyards, a judge of the Court of Session ; so bears an entry of the 9th June in that year :—

Dame Jean Murray, relict of umquhile James, Lord Torphichen, and Maister Johnne Grahame of Halyairdis now hir spouse, having been pursued against by the Minister of Torphichen for stipend allege that they are not liable.

Sir James Sandilands of Slamannan, as tutor of Calder, entered into litigation with Mr John concerning the lands of Hallyards, which were brought to him by his wife ; a forged deed was produced at the trial, for which a notary was hanged, and a dispute between the General Assembly and the Court of Session as to jurisdiction had been imported into the case. These circumstances appear to have embittered the feeling between the parties, and the King charged Grahame for peace' sake to depart from Edinburgh for a while. According to Calderwood's History, he was passing down Leith Wynd in obedience to this order, attended by some three or four score persons for his protection, when Sir James Sandilands, accompanied by his friend the Duke of Lennox, and an armed party, followed hard at his heels. Grahame thinking he was about to be attacked, turned to make resistance, " but the Duke sent and willed him to goe forward, promising no man sould invade him, yitt Mr John Grahame's companie shott ; quhairupoun the Duke suffered Sir James and his companie to doe for themselves." The party of Sandilands immediately made an attack, and Grahame fell wounded on the street, and was carried into a neighbouring house. A French boy, page to Sir Alexander Stewart, one of Sandilands' friends, seeing his master slain in the combat, followed the hapless judge into the house, " dowed a whinger into him," and so despatched him. Such was the characteristic termination of a lawsuit in 1593 ! Nor was the matter suffered to rest there. It appears that two years later, John, Earl of Montrose, as head of the house of Grahame, although a nobleman of such estimable character as to be appointed a few years afterwards Chancellor of the Kingdom, and Viceroy of Scotland during the King's absence in England, was nevertheless so

entirely under the sway of the feelings of the age, as to deem it necessary and proper that he should avenge the slaughter of his kinsman under circumstances similar to those in which he was slain. Upon its becoming known that the earl was approaching Edinburgh, accompanied by his son, the Master of Montrose, and a numerous retinue, Sandilands was strongly advised by his friends to withdraw himself from the city "because the erle was then ower great a party againis him." The tutor of Calder, however, nothing daunted, refused to listen to this advice, and finding himself not sae weel accompanied as he wald, sent for friends and convokit thame to Edinburgh. The result was a second desperate encounter, which took place on the 19th January 1594-5, beside the Salt Tron in the High Street, and which resulted in the death of Crawford of Kerse, a connection of Sir James Sandilands, who himself was severely wounded, and had been slain if George Lockhart of Air had not stood over him and defended until the toun of Edinburgh sindered them. These frequent street riots in Edinburgh afford a lamentable illustration of the weakness of James' government, which is rendered all the more striking in this case by the fact that the King himself was in the Tolbooth at the time, and the Lord Chancellor was also passing through the High Street. So little respect, however, was paid to his presence, and "sae great was the fury on either side that the Chancellor retirrit himself with gladness to the College of Justice." Moreover so slightly did Sir James Sandilands suffer in Court influence by his share in this affair that he was actually in the same year admitted a member of the Privy Council. The *tulyie* did not indeed pass wholly unnoticed by that august assembly, but in their transactions it is toned down to "the lait unhappy accident quhilck fell out amangis thame," concerning which the principals on either side were charged to answer to the King and Council on the 28th of February 1595. From the same record we find that the following persons were assisters in the fray on the side of Sir James Sandilands, namely, the youthful Lord Torphichen (now apparently of age), Mr James Spottiswode, Mr Johnne Broun, Thomas Inglis, younger of Auldlistoun, Gawin Sandielandis in Craig, and Johnne Sandielandis in Muirhousedykis.

In the course of this year (1595) King James professed to be greatly scandalised at the alarming extent of the private feuds standing between



his subjects of all degrees, "quhairby the commounwele is altogether disorderit and shaken louss," and he resolved upon a vigorous effort to bring about reconciliations between the parties at variance, "by his awn pains and travel" to that effect. Accordingly a lengthy list of barons was drawn up, which included Sir James Sandilands of Calder and Sir James Sandilands of Slamannan at feud with Hew Campbell of Loudoun, Sheriff of Ayr, to appear before His Highness on specified days, with certification that if they fail they shall be pursued with fire and sword "as inimies of God, His Majestie and to the commounwele and quietnes of this thair native cuntrey." It may be hoped that some good results followed in the direction of His Majesty's laudable desire; but on the other hand it is certain that many of the parties charged remained at feud with each other after this time. Sir James Sandilands of Slamannan was one of the "Gentleman adventurers" who in 1599 contracted with the Government for civilising the hitherto most barbarous Isle of Lewis, and developing the "extraordinarily rich resources" of the same, for the public good; and in the following year we see it mentioned that he rode to Dirleton for the purpose of apprehending Willam and Patrick Ruthven, the Erle of Gowrie's twa brethrein, but they had removed half an hour before his arrival. We find many other notices of this Sir James too numerous to be particularly referred to.

1608, *October 14*—There being a "moist unkyndlie heit" betwixt Lord Torphechin and Sir James Sandielandis of Slamannane, his uncle, both parties are charged to appear before the Privy Council, and to assure each other to keep the peace until 1st January 1610, under pain of rebellion.

In 1611 and 1612 he is further mentioned in company with James Sandilands, younger of Slamannan, his son, who was frequently proclaimed a rebel in consequence of violent proceedings.

We hear comparatively little of the young Lord Torphichen, the nephew and pupil of Slamannan during his minority. In the year 1587 he is designated James Sandilandis of Calder, Lord Torphichen, in a civil process relating to him and his tutor; and in June 1592 there is a charge of the Privy Council to him and to James, Lord Lindsay of the Byres, to find surety that they, and all for whom they are answerable, shall keep the king's peace to each other. He was served heir on 12th

May 1597 of James, Lord Torpheching, brother-german of his grandfather, John Sandilands of Calder, in all lands, dignities, etc., *tanquam præceptores de Torpheching*. The much vexed lands of Hallyards appear to have occasioned an equal amount of trouble to this Sir James as to his uncle and tutor. On 26th September 1597, complaint was made to the Privy Council sitting at Linlithgow by James Sandielandis of Calder, Lord Torphichin, as follows :—

He is retoured and seized in the heritable right of property of the Mains of Listoun called Halbarnis and the Manor Place thereof called the Halyairdis, and has been in peaceable possession of the same ever since the decease of Dame Jean Murray, liferenter thereof. Especially ever since that time he has had the “keeping and haning of the medois of the saidis landis and Mains of Listoun, and hes in maist peaceable maner without ony convocation of friendis or of his Heynis lieges mawne and win the hay thair of, and shorne ane grite part of the cornis growand thairupoun.” Nevertheless, James Murray, father-brother of Johnne Murray of Polmais, had pretended a right to the same landis and by means of “sinister informatioun” made to his Hienes had obtained letters charging him, the said Lord Torphichen, not to mow the meadows on pain of death, which letters were afterwards set aside as inordourlie. Yet the said Murray, “perseveirand and continewing in his formair extraordinair proceeding” has again commenced to trouble him, and complaint is now made to the Lords, who decide in favour of the Lord Torphichen. This property eventually passed out of the possession of the family 26th August 1619, when there is a crown Charter in favour of John, Earl of Mar, and Dame Marie Stewart his wife, of the lands of Halyairdis and Halbarnis alias the dominical lands of Listoun, on the resignation of James, Lord Torphichen. We might here add that the greater part of the ecclesiastical estates, or temple lands as they were called, were alienated by this Lord Torphichen. On 9th November 1599 he entered into a contract with Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston and James Tennent of Linhouse whereby he disposed to them conjointly the half of all the temple lands in Scotland, excepting the barony of Torphichen and other parts retained by his lordship ; and in the year 1604 the other half was sold to the same parties.

Some light is thrown upon the state and administration of justice at

I.

this period by the following extract from the Register of the Privy Council :—

1601, *July* 23—Complaint by James Sandilands of Calder, Lord Torphechin, that James Polwart of Cauldlaw was convicted before him in a court of the Regality of Torphechin for “certane injureis” done to Mr Robert Hodge, his own minister, and his lordship having caused him to be warded in the Castle of Torphechin until he should satisfy the minister, he had broken his ward and escaped within an hour of his committal. The lords order him to be warded in Edinburgh Castle.

In 1604, Lord Torphichen was charged to enter some of the inhabitants of Calder in the Tolbooth of Edinburgh to answer certain charges ; and his name is included in the Commission of the Peace for the counties of Edinburgh and Linlithgow in the years 1610 and 1615. He died in August 1617. His lordship married firstly, Elizabeth, daughter of James Heriot of Trabroun, who was the mother of his descendants ; and secondly, Mary, daughter of Gilbert, 8th Lord Somerville, who bore him no issue, and subsequently married again to William Douglas of Pumpherston. The marriage contract with Elizabeth Heriot is recorded in the books of Council and Session, 1st August 1595, and is entered into by the Lord Torphichen, with consent of James Sandelandis of Slamanane, Kt., Joseph Douglas of Pomphraystoun, and Mr Andrew Sandilands, son of the late James Sandilands of Sanct Monans, his curators, for their interests. The issue of this marriage was :—

JAMES, 3RD LORD TORPHICHEN, who was served heir of his father 15th December 1618, and died unmarried in January 1622.

John, 4th Lord Torphichen, to whom we shall revert.

Mr William Sandilands of Hilderston, tutor of Calder, during the minority of his nephew, a gentleman distinguished for his attachment to Presbyterian principles, and who both struggled in defence of, and suffered with, the persecuted Church of Scotland in the days of Charles II. In our parish records, under date 1st January 1641, we see “This day Mr Wm. Sandilands and dame Elizabeth Murray war married ;” and his son Walter, on his marriage with the heiress of Westport, near Linlithgow, assumed the surname and arms of Hamilton of Westport.

Mr Henry Sandilands, baptized 27th June 1605, is mentioned in the years 1624 and 1636.

Thomas, baptized 21st June 1612.

Isobel, baptized 28th October 1607, married Hugh Wallace of Elderslie.

XI.—JOHN, 4TH LORD TORPHICHEN, was, on 30th May 1622, served heir of his elder brother, the third lord, who died unmarried, and was seized of the lands and barony of Calder in the month of September following. He espoused Isabel Dundas, daughter of Sir Walter Dundas of Dundas, with whom he had three sons and three daughters, namely, John and Walter, who each in turn succeeded to the peerage; the Hon. William Sandilands of Couston, Linlithgowshire, baptized at Calder Church, 13th May 1630; Isobel, baptized 14th June 1631, who was married on 24th April 1666, to Sir Thomas Kirkpatrick of Closeburn; Kathren, baptized 14th August 1632; and Margaret, baptized 31st December 1633, married Thomas Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks. His lordship died in the month of July 1637, and was succeeded by his eldest son.

XII.—JOHN, 5TH LORD TORPHICHEN, who was in minority at the time of his father's death, and under tutory of his uncle, William Sandilands of Hilderston. He was served heir to his father in the lands and barony of Calder with patronage of the parish church, etc., 7th November 1637. We are told in Guthrie's Memoirs that he protested against the engagement to march into England in 1648, and he was one of the few peers who sat in parliament in January 1649. He died unmarried in the month of July in the same year.

XIII.—WALTER, 6TH LORD TORPHICHEN, was baptized at Calder church on 12th May 1629, and was retoured heir of his brother as above 6th November 1649. He enjoyed the title for about forty-seven years, during which long period his name occurs very frequently in relation to the transfer of lands and other technicalities affecting the parish and district. He was a supporter of the Revolution of 1688; was one of those who signed the Act declaring the legality of the meeting of the Estates summoned by the Prince of Orange, and he also signed a letter congratulating King William on his accession. It was by this lord that the greater part of the family possessions in West Calder was alienated to Thomas Marjoribanks of Balbardie, in 1692, namely the lands of Breichmilne, Clovenfoordsyke

Cleughhead, Haughhead, Scaitheuch, Torphin, North and South Cobinschaw, Crosswoodhill, Blackhill, Wester Blackmyre, Killindeane, Brothertoun, Gavieside, and Hillhead. He was four times married. Firstly to Dame Jean Lindsay, who was his wife in 1653, when she was heir of Alexander Lindsay younger of Edzell, her father, and of Dame Anna Weemes, her mother; she died childless, and his lordship married secondly, the Hon. Catherine Alexander, daughter of William, Viscount Canada, with whom he had three daughters but no male issue. Thirdly, Lord Torphichen espoused, on 11th April 1671, the Hon. Anne Elphinstone, daughter of Alexander, 6th Lord Elphinstone, who also bore him a daughter, but no son. His fourth wife was Christian, daughter of James Primrose, brother of Sir Archibald Primrose of Dalmeny, ancestor of the Earls of Rosebery, by whom he had three sons, namely Walter, who predeceased him; James, who became the seventh baron; and John, mentioned as second son in a reversion to him of the barony of Calder 27th February 1690. His lordship died at an advanced age in May 1696, his testament being confirmed at Edinburgh 25th November 1700.

XIV.—JAMES, 7TH LORD TORPHICHEN, was served heir of his father Walter 13th May 1698. On 6th July 1704 he took the oaths and his seat in the Scottish parliament, and afforded a cordial support to the treaty of union with England. He was Lieut.-Colonel of the 7th regiment of Dragoons, and served in the wars of Queen Anne; and on the breaking out of the rebellion, in 1715, he hastened down to Scotland from London, commanded a party of 500 men, which marched into Edinburgh on the 17th of October, and subsequently took part in the battle of Sheriffmuir in the following month. He was a trusted member of the Privy Council, and it is a curious trait in the character of a nobleman of such enlarged experience and scholarship superior to his time, that he appears to have been a firm believer in witchcraft. He presided, in 1706, over a Committee of the Privy Council appointed to inquire into the case of George and Lachlan Rattray in Inverness, "alleged guilty of the horrid crime of mischievous charms, by witchcraft and necromancy." The local authorities demurred to give effect to the verdict at the trial, but their lordships, finding the decision "agreeable to the probation," the men were ordained to be executed on the last Wednesday of September. This was the

same Lord Torphichen who, in 1720, complained to the Presbytery of Linlithgow of diabolical arts practised upon his son by witches in Calder village, which we have elsewhere had occasion to refer to. He was appointed by George I. Lord of Police, an office which he continued to hold until his death, which occurred at Calder House on the 10th August 1753. His lordship married Lady Jean Hume, daughter of Patrick, 1st Earl Marchmont, High Chancellor of Scotland, so celebrated for the distinguished figure he made at the Revolution of 1688 ; and with her, who died at Edinburgh 10th December 1751, in her 69th year, he had a numerous family, as detailed in our tabular pedigree. His eldest son, James, who was very severely wounded at the battle of Preston, 1745, having predeceased him, his lordship was succeeded by his second son.

XV.—WALTER, 8TH LORD TORPHICHEN. This nobleman was admitted a member of the faculty of Advocates in 1727, and acted for many years previous to his succession as depute to the Earl of Lauderdale, High Sheriff of Edinburgh. He is designed Mr Walter Sandilands, advocate, second son of James, Lord Torphichen, at 30th August 1744, when he had seisin of the lands of Coustoun, Braidshaw, Adiewell and Muirhousdykes. He was appointed Sheriff-depute of the county in 1748 ; was seized of the lordship and barony of Calder 8th November 1753 ; and he died at Calder House 9th November 1765. He married in London, 9th June 1757, Elizabeth, daughter and heir of Alexander Sandilands, M.D., physician to the British Hospital in Flanders, and by her, who survived him and died also at Mid-Calder 27th September 1779, had four sons, who all died without descendants.

XVI.—JAMES, 9TH LORD TORPHICHEN, the eldest son of the foregoing, was born 15th November 1759, and succeeded to the title at the age of six years. He adopted early in life the profession of arms, and served in the 21st regiment with General Burgoyne in the American expedition, and was one of those who piled their arms at Saratoga in consequence of the convention concluded by Burgoyne with General Gates. In 1787 he held a lieutenancy in the Coldstream Guards, and had a company in that regiment with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, with which he served in Flanders under the Duke of York 1793-4. He was chosen one of the sixteen

representatives of the Scottish peers in parliament in 1790, and again in 1796, and he died in the year 1815, having been fifty years Lord Torphichen. His lordship married at Edinburgh, 6th April 1795, Anne, only surviving child of Sir John Inglis of Cramond, Bart., who died childless. The succession next devolved upon

XVII.—JAMES, 10TH LORD TORPHICHEN, cousin-german of the last-mentioned, only son of the Hon. Robert Sandilands, younger brother of the 8th baron. He was born 21st July 1770, and was in early life captain of an East Indiaman. He married 3rd November 1806 Margaret Douglas Stirling, 2nd daughter of John Stirling, Esq. of Kippendavie, a cadet of the House of Keir, and had three sons—Robert, who succeeded him; the Rev. John Sandilands, M.A., in Holy Orders, rector of Coston, Leicestershire; and James, captain, 8th Hussars. His lordship died 22nd March 1862 at the venerable age of 92 years.

XVIII.—ROBERT, 11TH LORD TORPHICHEN, captain in the 3rd Regiment of Guards, afterwards called the Scots Fusilier Guards, was born 3rd August 1807, and succeeded his father in 1862. He married 25th July 1865 Helen, youngest daughter of Thomas Maitland, Lord Dundrennan, Lord of Session, and died without issue 24th December 1869, when he was succeeded by his nephew,

XIX.—JAMES WALTER, 12TH LORD TORPHICHEN, and 19th Baron of Calder, eldest son of the Hon. and Rev. John Sandilands, as above.

THE ANCIENT ARMORIAL ensign of the surname of Sandilands is argent a bend azure, and such a shield is emblazoned in an illuminated MS. of the 14th century known as the *Amorial de Gelre*, which is considered the earliest extant collection of Scottish Arms. In a manuscript compiled by Berry, King of Arms to Charles VII. of France about 1450-55, a shield is illuminated for Le Cieulx de Qualor, *i.e.* the Lord of Caldor, bearing quarterly first and fourth argent a heart gules on a chief azure three stars of the first, second and third argent a bend azure, affording the earliest known illustration of the arms of Sandilands quartering the cognisance of Douglas, which warlike race the family had come to represent; and it is to be observed that the Douglas coat is here depicted in the first or more

honourable quarter. Allusion has already been made to the seal of Sir John Sandilands of Calder, anno 1466, as mentioned by Nisbet, and a precisely similar armorial seal of the same baron is appended to an original retour of Agnes Melville, as daughter and heir of her father, Thomas Melville of Melville, dated 23rd April 1471, and yet preserved. The shield on these seals bears first and fourth a bend for Sandilands, second and third the Douglas ensign, the heart in all the above being represented uncrowned, and the stars placed on chiefs. Next in order, chronologically, appear the several carvings upon the church of Calder, which may be of about the year 1545. In these the Douglas stars are placed on fesses instead of chiefs. The first Lord Torphichen occasionally used his family coat as above with a chief charged with a label of three points, but he more generally bore the coat of the Lords St John, namely, argent a thistle leaved proper, on a chief azure a crown or; the crest was an eagle displayed with a lion as supporter on the dexter side. A copy of this seal,

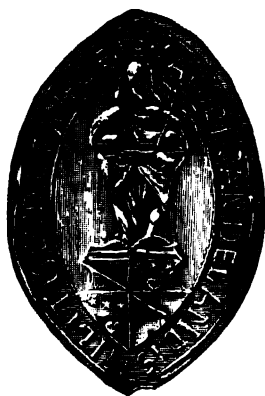


Fig. 9.—Seal of James, Lord St John, 1554.

from a document of the year 1571, has been adopted to ornament the boards of the present volume. In the Alderston charter chest are several old titles of the lands and barony of Auldliston. Fig. 9 is from a charter of those lands by James Lord St John, dated 6th May 1554; and appended to a precept of the same lands to Thomas Inglis in the year 1616 is a seal bearing Per pale, dexter, quarterly, first and fourth a bend for Sandilands, second and third Douglas; impaling a thistle stalked and leaved and on a chief a crown. A lion supports the shield on the dexter side only, and the legend is S' IACOBI DNI TORPHECHIN. In

1672-78, Walter, Lord Torphichen, registered his arms, placing the coat of St John in the 1st and 4th grand quarters, Sandilands and Douglas in the 2nd and 3rd, as in use at the present time.



The farms in this parish at the present time attached to Calder House are those of Craigs, Letham, Harry's Muir, Newfarm, the ancient name for which is Dedridge, Contentibus, and Nether Williamston. A few observations may suffice regarding the historical associations of some of these lands.

CRAIGS.—James Leirmonth of Overcraig had a charter from John Sandilandis fear of Calder, 20th March 1555, setting the lands in feu ferme to him and his heirs, with astriction to the myln of Calder, used and wont, and service at Courts and at the Kingis weiris, according to the rent and quality of his lands. James Leirmonth of the Craig is also amongst those delaitit anent the slaughter of David Riccio, 19th March 1566. With Elizabeth Douglas, his wife, he had a charter from James VI. of the lands of Hanyng in the barony of Levingstoun in the King's hands, by reason of the forfeiture of James Hamiltoun of Levingstoun, dated 22nd July 1569. James Leirmonth of Ovir Craig was cited with others in the barony to attend the Wappenschaw display in 1586; and four years later, John Learmonth of Over Craig appears in a list of occupiers of the tierce lands of the barony of Calder, 12th March 1590. The lands were in the possession of Mr Robert Lyntoun of Newzeirfield, advocate, in 1603, when he gave seisin of an annual rent of £100 out of his lands of Over Craig, lying in the barony of Calder Comititis, to Francis Lyntoun, his eldest lawful son. Mr Robert died 12th October 1607, leaving by Helen Douglas, his spouse, Alexander John, Thomas, and Mary Lyntoun, his younger and minor children, executors dative decerned to him. In the month of February 1631 Mr James Lintoun had principal seisin of the lands of Over Craig.

Nether Craig had formerly its own steading, the gable of which still remains a picturesque ruin on the lower part of the lands. James Sandilands, son to George Sandilands in Nather Craig, had a feu-charter of all and haill the ten pund land of Nather Craig as it is presentlie occupiit and manurit be the said George, dated 18th November 1552. The charter is granted by John Sandilands fear of Calder to James Sandilands as above and his airis maill quhilk failzeing to ye narrest and lauchfull airis of ye said Johne Sandelandis fear of

A PEDIGREE  
OF THE FAMILY OF  
**SANDILANDS OF CALDER**  
**LORDS TORPHICHEN**

By H. B. M'CALL.

1894.

Sir  
JOHN  
fiar d  
ass

ALISON,

Sir Alex. Boswell of  
Balmuto.

JOHN  
char  
1487

IAN,  
David Hepburn  
of Balmuto.

MARGARET,  
wife in 1506 and 1508 of Robert  
Bruce of Auchinbowie.

Sir

JOHN

ALISON,  
m. Sir John Cockburn  
of Ormiston.

MARGARET,  
m. 1st Sir Jas. Dundas,  
2nd Wm. Wauchope.

AGNES,  
m. Mr James  
Drummond.

Sir

MARGARET, m. Jas.  
Tennent of Linhouse.

EUPHAME.

MARY, m. Joseph  
Douglas of Pumpherston.

JAMES

nnan.

FREDERICK,  
d. ante 1641.

JOHN,  
d. ante 1642.

ELIZABETH.

JAMES

HENRY,  
born 1605.

ROBERT,  
in Woodheid, 1656.

ISABEL,  
m. Hugh Wallace of Elderslie.

JOHN

AM of Couston,  
o. Linlithgow.

ISABEL,  
m. Sir Thos. Kirkpatrick.

MARGARET,  
m. Thos. Marjoribanks.

MARY

Lady JEAN HUME, dau. of  
Patrick, Earl Marchmont.

JOHN,  
d. s. p.

CHRISTIAN,  
m. Robert Pringle.

MAGDALEN,  
m. Andrew Anderson.

JAMES  
wou  
174

ROBERT,  
Capt. in Army,  
d. 1791.

= GRIZEL, dau. of Sir  
Thos. Kirkpatrick  
of Closeburn.

GRIZEL,  
d. unmar.

CHRISTIAN,  
d. unmar.  
1762.

WILHELMINA,  
d. unmar.  
1767.

JAMES

SANDILANDS,  
diaman, succeeded  
8th Lord, d. 1862.

= MARGT. DOUGLAS, dau.  
of John Stirling of  
Kippendavie, d. 1836.

SUSAN,  
d. unmar.

GRIZEL,  
d. unmar.

ROBERT

Capt. JAMES,  
8th Hussars.

MARY, m. 1828  
Wm. Ramsay Ramsay of Barnton.

JAMES

SANDILANDS,  
3rd Regt., d. 1882.

HELEN JANE SANDILANDS.



Calder. John Sandilands in Nether Craig is mentioned in 1586, and he was deceased at 30 January 1589, when James Sandelandis, sone of umquhile Johnne Sandelandis in Nather Craig compeirit before the baillie of Calder. Gawin Sandilands was tenant in 1590; and James Sandilands, portioner of Nether Craig, is a witness to various charters in 1601. Near to the farm steading of Nether Craig was the house of Nether Howden, the major portion of which lands, together with Over and Nether Craigs, were, during the present century, incorporated in the one farm of Craigs—more properly called Craigs and Howden.

LETHAM.—These lands belonged, in 1602, to Joseph Douglas of Pumpherston, by whom they were conveyed to James and Henry Mekill, lawful sons of the late Thomas Mekill in Watterstoun, redeemable for the sum of £400. James Cumming was proprietor at 18th August 1631, when he gave seisin of an equal half of his lands of Lethame, in the barony of Calder, to Elizabeth Stenhope, his wife. Andrew Oswald of Letham is mentioned in 1645, when the Kirk-Session refused to allow him to go to Edinburgh, "in regaird the pestilence is so frequent thair." He was concerned in transactions regarding the Church in 1646, but appears to have been deceased in 1653, when the Ledie Lethame conducted in person her claim to a seat therein. On 20th October 1658 the lands were appraised from James and Andrew Oswald, sons and heirs of the first and second marriages respectively of the late Andrew Oswald, merchant burgess of Edinburgh, at the instance of James Dundas of Mortoune, for payment to him of 3,672 merks, 6s. 8d. ; and in February of the following year the lands of Letham were disposed by James Dundas to Walter, Lord Torphichen, to whom, and to James, Master of Torphichen, they were confirmed in 1695. James, Lord Torphichen, was seized of the "lands of Letham, comprising the mains thereof, and a pendicle called Easter and Wester Muirhouse of Letham, or Harrys in the Muir," on 9th June 1798.

NETHER WILLIAMSTON.—The name appears to have been derived from the family of Williamson of that Ilk, which at one time possessed these lands as well as those of Murieston, and a part at least of Over

Williamston. Archibald Williamsoun, portioner of Nayther Williamston, and John Williamsoun ane other portioner thereof were bound to serve the baron of Calder in all oistis and raids with horse, jak speir, steil bonat and other accoutrements when charged thereto 19th April 1586. The memory of their connection with the property is preserved by an old carved stone (Fig. 10) with the monogram I W, and the date 1636, which has been built into the wall of the modern farm-steading. These are the initials of James Williamsoun of Williamstoun, who was retoured heir of his father, James Williamsoun, of the same in these and other lands, 4th November 1635. Other particulars regarding the family are given in our notices of the Murieston Estate in the following chapter.

Margaret Sandelandis sumtyme spouse to James Aikman in Williamestoune died in the month of december 1573, the inventory of her effects being given up by her said spouse as father and administrator to James, Johne, Peter and Elspeth Aikmans, her children. Jonet Bruce, spouse of David Aikman in Nether Williamston, was executed for witchcraft in 1644.



Fig. 10.—Carved stone at Nether Williamston.

### CHAPTER III.

## County Seats and Historic Lands.



Fig. 11.—View of Alderston House from N.

#### ALDERSTON.

**A**LDERSTON House is situated at a distance of about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of the village of Mid-Calder. The original portion, which appears to have been erected by Mr Patrick Kinloch, an advocate in Edinburgh, who owned the lands in the year 1626, consists of a rectangular tower, 32 feet long by 21 ft. 6 in. wide, to the southern end of which extensive additions have been made, converting it into a mansion of the familiar **L** plan. The modern portions of the structure are indicated by the hatching in the annexed ground plan, the original tower being shewn in black. The basement flat is vaulted, a massive cylindrical arch, which extends the entire length of the ancient building, comprising what is now the kitchen, but may in olden times have been the entrance hall. The

N

doorway giving access to this kitchen from the modern part of the mansion is clearly the original means of ingress, and the date 1626 is carved upon

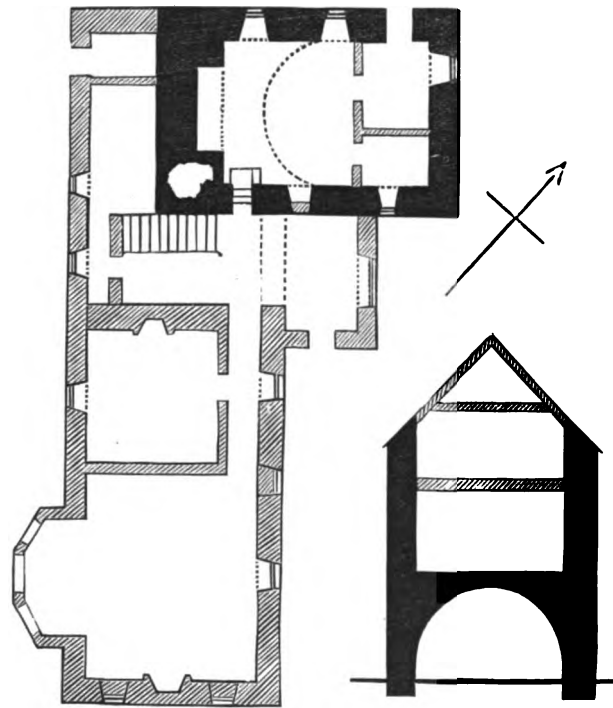


Fig. 12.—Ground Plan of Alderston House, with section of the original structure.

the wall there, near to the spring of the arch. The S W. wall containing the kitchen chimney is 7 feet thick on the ground floor, and, although now walled up, the appearances both above and below lead to the suggestion that a spiral stair ascends to the upper flats in the southern corner of this wall. Upon the N E. gable, immediately beneath the crow steps, there is set a moulded stone panel evidently designed to contain an escutcheon ; and the protruding stone a little lower down (Fig. 11)

covers a small cupboard, or garde-robe, contrived in the thickness of the wall. The dormer windows on the N E. elevation are clearly modern additions. Alderstoun House is marked upon Blæu's map of the locality, published in 1662.

On 13th July 1645 all men within the parish above the age of twelve years were warned to present themselves on Alderstoun-muire on the following Wednesday, that the republican minister of Calder might do a little recruiting for the side he had espoused in the civil war ; and there is wisdom certainly in the expedient which he adopted to obtain a full muster—"with certificatioun that those that comis not sall be those that shall go out to this present expeditioun."

Like most other lands in the parish, this property formed part in olden times of the barony of Calder; but on 14th February 1696, the following lands were erected by William III. into a free barony by charter under the Great Seal in favour of Mr John Mitchell of Alderstoun, writer in Edinburgh, namely the lands of Over Alderstoun comprehending Alderstoun Mains, Crofthead, Alderstoun Gleib, Muirhouse and Binnerflat, as also the lands of Hazlecleugh, Small Mailling, Yellow Struther and Thorn. To these various properties the lands of Howatstone, Dyke *alias* Wester Dressilrig and Nether Alderstone, together with those of Cairns and Colzium, were added, and incorporated in the foresaid barony of Alderston in 1709. Mr John Mitchell also erected "the miln of Alderstoun," to which the vassals and their tenants were thirled or bound to send their grain. But the baronial jurisdiction thus erected has been gradually alienated and abandoned; it is long since the sound of the grinding was hushed in Alderstoun; and of any special powers or dignities which the lands once possessed the sole remaining privilege consists in that undeniable charter of respectability—the right to keep a dove-cot.

At the earliest period to which our researches extend, Alderston was held of the Crown by the family of Creichton, who also held the lands of Cairns and others in the district. Sir George de Crychtoun of Cairns, who was created by James II. Earl of Caithness, had a charter from that monarch on 8th July 1452, of the lands of Cairns, Barnton, Carniehill, Alderstoun and Brothertoun, which are by this charter incorporated in the Earldom of Caithness. Some additional particulars are given in our notices of Cairns at page 101, of the family of Creichton, which continued to hold the above named lands until the year 1531, when a third part of the town and lands of Ovir Awdenstoun, in the barony of Calder Comitis, are alienated and disposed to Mr John Chepman, burgess of Edinburgh, and Isobell Hendirsoun, his wife, who render therefor to John Creichtoun of Strathurde, Kt., one white rose in name of blench ferme. The charter is dated at Edinburgh, 27th February 1531.

HENRY KINLOCH in Aldinstoun is the next proprietor mentioned. He had a charter of the lands of Nether and Ower Aldinstoun from Patrick Houstoun of Houstoun, dated 16th January 1556, to himself in



liferent and to Peter Kinloch, his son, in fee, David Kinloch, burgess of Edinburgh, being amongst the witnesses. He was present at an inquest of the barony of Calder held on 10th February 1583, for inquiring quhat guid statutis suld be made anent the keiping of guid orдор in the baronie; and is mentioned also in 1585, but he was deceased prior to 1593. His son,

MR PETER KINLOCH of Alderston, who became a writer in Edinburgh, was articled to Mr Robert Scot of Knichtispottie, Clerk to the Lords of Council, and Writer to the College of Justice, in which situation he was the colleague for several years of Mr Robert Williamson, afterwards of Murieston. In company with Williamson, he witnesses several charters in favour of Mr Robert Scot in 1586, when he was "apparent of Alderstoun;" and he is still designed servitor to the said Mr Robert in 1590. Mr Peter Kinloch in Owir Awdinstoun was charged to serve the Baron of Calder at a Wappinschaw held on the 4th August 1586, and to have a horse worth 100 merks, with Jak speir and steil bonat, plait slewis, sword and pistolet. There is a precept directed to Mr Petir Kinloch of Alderstoun, 31st May 1593, requiring him to give seisin of the lands of Nether Howdoun to James Douglas of Nether Howden and Jonet Kinloch his wife. He complains to the Privy Council in 1608, of Alexander Kincaid and Johnne Cowtis, who, for injury done to Mr Petir Kinloch of Alderstoun, are to be apprehended by the Captain of the Guard, and their goods inventoried for His Majesty's use; and again at 8th July 1613, Mr Peter Kinloche, writer, makes complaint to the Privy Council that Sir Robert Creichtoun of Cluny, Knight, remains unrelaxed from a horning of 25th June last for not paying to the pursuer £600 of principal and 100 merks of expenses. He died 17th September 1621, nominating Mr Patrick Kinloch, his eldest son, his only executor, to whom he leaves the sole disposal of his effects. His testament is dated at Edinburgh 16th May 1621, wherein he is designed Mr Peter Kinloch of Alderstoun, writer and indweller in Edinburgh. He had two sons, Mr Patrick, above-named, and John, mentioned in 1623 and 1624, but deceased at 28th November 1625, when Mr Patrick was seized of an annual rent of 400 merks out of the lands of Howatston and Gaviesyde, as lawful and nearest heir of the late John Kinloch, his brother.

MR PATRICK KINLOCH of Alderston, advocate, the next laird, is a witness to a seisin of the lands of Grange of Breich, 25th July 1621, when he was "son of Mr Peter Kinloch of Alderstoun"; he was served heir of his said father in certain lands and tenements in Edinburgh on the 6th December 1621, and of John Kinloch, his brother-german, 29th July 1625.

In the years 1621 and 1622 there are two precepts of *clare constat* in his favour, the one by James, Lord Torphichen, and the other by Sir Ludovic Houstoun of that Ilk, as nearest lawful heir of the late Mr Peter Kinloch, writer, burgess of Edinburgh, his father, of all and whole the lands of Over and Nether Alderstoun, with tenants, tenandries, and service of free tenants in the barony of Calder Comitis. He was an elder of the parish church, and on various occasions took an active and influential part in promoting the efficiency and usefulness of that institution; in 1626 he undertook the collection of a taxation of £240 imposed upon the parish for procuring a church bell. He was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates, 21st March 1627; and he died on the 4th November 1639, leaving a legacy to the Kirk of Calder.

1654, *August* 17th—Appoyntes James Flint to give a merk to the baillie to geive for the decreit of the Legasie that was left to the Kirk by Maister Patrick Kinloche of Alderstoun.

He married Agnes Scot, third daughter of Mr Laurence Scot of Harperrig, to whom he gave a charter of ane Lyfrent off ane chalder Beir and ane chalder Aitmeill and tua doosen kayne foules out of the lands of Over and Nether Alderstoun 4th October 1622. Mr James Scot, one of the Clerks of Session, and Mr William Scot, advocate, are amongst the witnesses. With this lady, who was still living in 1664, he had James, who succeeded him; William, his second son, mentioned in his will; Lawrence, baptized 11th March 1625; Elizabeth, eldest daughter; Barbara, baptized 4th September 1638, married Charles Oliphant, writer in Edinburgh; Abigail married Mr Andro Kinneir, minister at Stirling, and had issue; and Marion.

JAMES KINLOCH of Alderston was seized of a third part of the toun and lands of Over Aldinstoun in the barony of Calder, as also of the lands

of Howatston and Gaviesyde upon a precept of *Clare Constat* by John, Lord Torphichen, as heir of the deceast Mr Patrick Kinloch of Over Aldinstoun, his father, 12th August 1640. There is also a precept for his infeftment in the lands of Over and Nether Alderston by Sir Ludovick Houstoun of that Ilk, dated 7th June 1640. In company with the lairds of Linhouse and Charlesfield, he was ordained in the year 1645 to keep the doors of the parish church on Sundays and preaching days during the continuance of the plague in the district, to see that no strangers nor persons suspected of the pestilence came within the church. Interrogated by the parish minister in the following year regarding compliance with Montrose, Mr James Kynloche of Alderstoun declaired that he never procured a protection from Jamis Grahame, nor from any other of that factioun.

In the year 1648 there are several dispositions affecting the property, which was conveyed by charter and seisin to various persons, but always, it would appear, under equity of redemption by the lawful heir. On 12th February a charter of Over and Nether Alderston was granted by Mr James Kinloch of Auldinstoun in favour of Mr Francis Kinloch, Merchant and Factor in Paris, Henry Kinloch, Merchant, Burgess of Edinburgh, being amongst the witnesses. Then, on the 8th April, the same lands, including those of Howatston and Gavieside, were assigned by Mr Francis, for the sum of £8,816, to Mr Laurence Scot of Babilaw, who had seisin 10th May 1648. By this proprietor the estate was again transferred to Abraham Pargillies in the Lynhous, who paid £7,608, 6s. Scots, for Over and Nether Alderstons and Howatston, without Gavieside, under reversion always to Mr James Kinloch of Alderston, who might redeem the lands upon payment to Pargillies of £7,608, 6s. 2d. This was in 1653; and three years later, namely on 15th March 1656, the above-mentioned reversion was assigned by Mr James to Walter, Lord Torphichen, who in terms thereof redeemed the lands and had a renunciation of the same in his favour by Abraham Pargillies 25th November 1658. Letters of Inhibition against Mr James Kinloch are frequent at this period, one in 1652 being "by authority of the Keepers of the Liberty of England," and another in 1657 "under the signet of Oliver Cromwell." The lands belonging to the estate in 1664 are set forth in a disposition by Mr James

Kinloch of Aldinstoun to Charles Oliphant, Writer in Edinburgh, his brother-in-law, namely those of Over and Nether Alderstouns, with manor place, Crofthead, Zett aikeris, Bennerflatt, and Murehouses, with the comonty of the common muire of Aldinstoun, the lands of Howatston and Gaviesyde, all in the barony of Calder ; dated at Alderstoun 20th August, 1664. Four years later the lands were woodset by Walter, Lord Torphichen, and Mr James Kinloch for the sum of 8000 merks to James Dundas, youngest son of George Dundas of that Ilk, who had seisin 7th August 1668. Our next notice of the property is at 5th March 1692, when a disposition of the lands of Over Aldingstoun, comprehending Aldingstone Maynes, Crofthead, Haslecleuch, Aldingstone Gleib, etc., in the barony of Calder, was granted by Walter, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Christian Primrose, his wife, in favour of Mr John Mitchell of Todshaugh, in the parish of Kirkliston, who had seisin thereupon.

MR JOHN MITCHELL of Alderstoun was a writer in Edinburgh. Our first notice of him is at 3rd March 1680, when he had a charter under the Great Seal of the lands of Todshaugh, with manor place, etc., as the same were sometime possessed by James Wast, afterwards by Robert Allan, and thereafter by Francis Galloway of Todshaugh, formerly lying in the barony of Inglistoun and now in the shire of Linlithgow.<sup>1</sup> He had a disposition of the lands of Over Alderstoun and others, as already narrated, 5th March 1692, and obtained from King William a charter thereupon, under the Great Seal, erecting and incorporating the various lands therein specified into a free barony, to be called the barony of Aldingstoun, and held of the Sovereign in blench ferm, fee and heritage, with tenants, tenandries and service of free tenants, by all rights, ways, etc., with mills, multures, hawkings, huntings, and fishings, with courts, plaints, herezeldis, bluidwites, infangthief, outfangthief, pitt, stocks, and gallows,<sup>2</sup> paying to the Crown therefor two shillings of silver at each feast of Pentecost, if demanded only. This charter is dated at Edinburgh, 14th February 1696. At a subsequent period he acquired from Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse the lands of Wester Dressilrig, now called Westfield, and those of Nether

<sup>1</sup> The name of these lands was in the 18th century altered to its more euphonious equivalent of Foxhall.

<sup>2</sup> For explanation of these terms, see footnote at page 251.

Alderstoun, which are confirmed to him by James, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Thomas Marjoribanks of that Ilk, 17th December 1701 ; also from various other proprietors, the lands of Cairns Easter and Wester, Baadpark, Wester Colzium, and Howatston, confirmed by Lord Torphichen, 29th July 1708 ; and which several lands are, by Crown charter of 9th February 1709, disjoined from the barony of Calder and



Fig. 13.—Signature of Mr John Mitchell, 1698.

all other baronies to which they were previously annexed, and united to the barony of Alderston. Mr John was ordained an elder of Mid-Calder parish church 9th October 1698, and was a very regular attendant in the Session until 1727. In the year 1722 he was retoured heir of his sister, Annabella Mitchell, and in the same year heir of provision of Mr James Forrester of Logie. He married (contract dated 11th August 1687) Isabella Borthuik daughter of Alexander Borthuik of Falahill, to whom he gave seisin in liferent of his rume of land called the Mains of Aldingstoun and that part of his estate called Dale Acres or Aldingstoun Gleib, 13th March 1702. They had two sons, Walter and William, and three daughters, Barbara ; Elizabeth, born 12th August 1708 ; and Margaret ; and he died in the month of July 1730. His testament is recorded 14th January 1741, William Mitchell, his only son then in life, being nominated executor and intromitter. Walter Mitchell of Listounshiells, the elder son, died previous to the 21st March 1740, when his brother, William Mitchell, was his heir of the lands of Listounshiells, Easter Colzium and Bents. William, the second son is designed chirurgion apothecary and convener of the Trades in Edinburgh. He was retoured heir of provision of Mr John Mitchell of Alderstoun, his father, 5th December 1738, and he was in the same year admitted to the eldership in this parish ; he died before 13th June 1748, when his sisters above-named were his heirs in certain tenements in Edinburgh at the foot of the Canon gate thereof.

The estate and barony of Alderstoun was at this period exposed to public sale by William Mitchell, chirurgion, and other trustees nominated by Mr John Mitchell, when John Bell, merchant and late bailie of Edinburgh, was preferred to the purchase as the highest bidder, he having

offered twenty-four years' purchase of the free rent and £380 sterling more, amounting to £42,917, 12s. Scots.

JOHN BELL of Alderston, at Whitsunday 1736, made payment of this sum, together with annual rent thereon since Candlemas 1729, conform to the articles of roup extending in whole to £58,349, 4s. 7d. Scots ; and he had a renunciation of the property from William Mitchell of Alderston for himself and on behalf of the other parties interested, dated at Edinburgh, 29th March 1738. The property so conveyed included the Alderston estate, the lands of Westfield, etc., but the deed specially excepts the lands of West Cairns, West Colzium, and Wester Causewayend, which had previously been disposed to other purchasers. This proprietor died in Edinburgh on 3rd November 1738, Charles Bell, his eldest son, being executor dative. The testament makes mention of the late Mareon Gray, sometime spouse to the deceased, and the free gear amounts to £10,488, 14s. 8d.; and from another contemporary document we learn that Mr Bell married a second time to Barbara Rule, and that his younger children were Robert, John, Archibald, Barbara, Margaret, Elizabeth, and Katharine. On 23rd April 1740, Charles Bell, eldest son and heir served and retoured to the late John Bell of Alderston, disposes the estate to John Cochran, merchant and late bailie of Edinburgh, son of Mungo Cochran of Hillhead.

JOHN COCHRAN of Alderston obtained a Crown charter of the lands and barony, comprehending the lands of Alderston, etc., with mill lately built thereon by the deceased Mr John Mitchell, Dyke or Wester Dresilrig, Yellowstruther and Bents (which lands of Bents are by this charter disjoined from the barony of Calder and united to that of Alderston), dated at Edinburgh 23rd June 1740. He married Janet Broun with whom he had several children, namely, William ; John, born 1741 ; George, born 1746 ; and Janet, born 1743 ; and he died on 2nd July 1749. He was succeeded by his eldest son,

WILLIAM COCHRAN of Alderston, who had a precept furth of chancery as heir of his father in the above-named lands dated 10th August 1750. Very shortly thereafter the property was again sold, James Gartshore, clerk to the Signet, being the purchaser.

JAMES GARTSHORE of Alderston was a writer to the Signet in very

extensive practice in Edinburgh, if we may judge by the frequency of the occurrence of his name in the records relating to that period. He was a son of Mr James Gartshore, minister of Carmichael, and was admitted to the society of Writers to His Majesty's Signet on 6th October 1729. He had a charter from the Crown on his own resignation of the lands and barony of Alderston, with manor place, etc., comprehending, as formerly specified, to him and to James Gartshore his only son, the child of the deceased Mistress Jean Scott, his spouse, dated at Edinburgh 23rd February 1753. His first wife was Jean Scott, third daughter of Sir Patrick Scott of Ancrum, Bart., and widow of David Muirhead, younger of Linhouse, with whom he had James, before-mentioned, and a daughter, Jane, who married in 1755 Thomas Tod of Drygrange, W.S. Jean Scott died before 1753, and the laird of Alderston espoused secondly, in the month of June 1756, Helen, daughter of John Spottiswoode, advocate, to whom he gave a liferent annuity of £150 sterling out of the lands and barony of Alderston in terms of the contract of marriage between them. He executed an entail in favour of James Gartshore, his son, and certain other heirs of tailie therein mentioned, 25th July 1767; and he died on 23rd January 1774.

JAMES GARTSHORE of Alderston, who succeeded his father, was a writer in Edinburgh in 1762, when he witnesses a seisin of the lands of Linhouse and others in favour of Alexander Muirhead; and he had a precept of *Clare Constat* as nearest heir of the deceased James Gartshore, of Alderston, his father, 6th October 1774. In 1778 he granted a feu-charter of the lands of Nether Alderston to John Gordon, junior, W.S., and in the following year he conveyed the lands and barony of Over Alderston to trustees whom he directed to provide thereout for the jointure of £150 sterling annually to Mrs Helen Spottiswoode, "his mother-in-law" [*i.e.* step-mother], widow of James Gartshore, last of Alderston, his father; to pay a principal sum of £3000 sterling due to George, Earl of Glasgow, and contained in a bond upon the said lands; and to discharge the claims of certain other creditors. This trust-disposition is dated at Alderston, 6th July 1779.

JAMES DUNN of Alderston was laird in 1798, and at 5th October 1799, when Isabella Dunn, his second daughter, was married to Robert

Gordon of Jamaica. In the year 1802 Mr Dunn is described as of Heriot Row, Edinburgh, and the title of the lands and barony of Alderston vested at that period in his brother-in-law, Richard Dickson of Logiegreen, the brother of Mary Dickson his wife. This gentleman died before 11th November 1803, and the property was, by disposition dated 15th June 1807, conveyed by his trustees to Miss Elizabeth Bruce, eldest daughter of David Bruce of Kinnaird, county Stirling, and sister of James Bruce of Kinnaird, the celebrated African traveller, and explorer of the sources of the Nile. The family which now became proprietors of Alderston, could thus claim to be lineal descendants of the hero of Bannockburn, although in the male line they were not Bruces but Hays, David Bruce of Kinnaird before alluded to, being a son of David Hay of Woodcockdale, in Linlithgowshire, who took the surname of Bruce on his marriage with Helen Bruce, the heiress of Kinnaird. She was succeeded by William Bruce of Alderston, who had seisin of the estate on 17th May 1827, upon an assignation by Miss Bruce's trustees, under burden of annuities to each of his sisters, Elizabeth, Agnes and Margaret Bruce; and he continued laird of Alderston for a period of upwards of thirty years. Dying unmarried, Mr Bruce bequeathed the property to Mrs Janet Bathgate Colquhoun, wife of Dr James Marr, a physician in Edinburgh, by whom it was again conveyed, on the 14th May 1873, to John Wilson of Alderston, the present proprietor.

The farms in this parish attached to the estate are those of Crofthead and Hazelcleuch, Adambrae, Rosebank, Brucefield, etc.

Upon a funeral escutcheon of Mary Oliphant, Countess of Strathmore, who died in 1731, the coat of Kinloch of Alderston is emblazoned as the fourth of the *seize quartiers*. It is azure, a boar's head betwixt three mascles argent.

#### NETHER ALDERSTON.

These lands, including those of Adambrae Mill, form part of the Livingston estate of the Earl of Rosebery. In the early history of the property it is a little difficult rightly to discriminate between Over and Nether Alderston, but it appears that the latter was the heritage of the Muirheads of Lachope.



Symon Cowpland was tenant in Aldanestoun in 1482, holding under William Murhede of Lachope for the payment of xij merkis of siluer at one term of the year and xij bolls of meal at the other term. In the year mentioned, the tenandry was in the hands of the superior John Sandylans of Caldor, Knicht, as regards the uplifting of the second of these termly payments, Lachope being entitled to the twelve merks; but Symon makes complaint that each of these his over-lords has wrangwis withaldin fra him doubill malis of ye saide landis of Aldanestoun, namely 24 merks withholden by William Murhede and 24 bolls of meal by John of Sandylans. The Lords Auditors decern the double rent to be restored to the tenant pending a settlement of the dispute between the baron and his vassal, 12th December 1482. In the year 1516, James Mureheid of Laichop raised an action against John Hamilton in Alderstoun for wrongous ejection and outputting of Patrick Wellis his servant, out of his third part of the lands of Alderstoun, and for destroying his house and biggings, so that the same had lain waste for two years. Decreet is given against the defender 20th January 1516-17, who is ordered to restore a certain quantity of victual and a number of cattle, etc., or the value thereof. Johnne Muirheid in Nayther Audinstoune attended a Baron Court of Calder Comitis in 1583, and his name appears in the list of vassals in 1586. On 12th February 1624, James Mureheid of Lachoipe is retoured heir of James Mureheid of the same, his father, in the 40s. land of Nether Alderstoun, in the barony of Calder Comitis. This James Muirhead was seized of the lands on precept by Lord Torphichen on 26th August 1628; and with consent of James Muirhead, his son, and of Marie Dalzell, spouse of the younger James, he grants a charter of the lands of Nether Alderston to John Muirhead of Eister Inch of Bathgate, dated at Lauchop 3rd November 1631. And in the following year a feu-ferm of 200 merks out of the lands of Nether Alderston was given by the same parties to John Muirhead of Wester Inch of Bathgate. This is the same John Muirhead who about the same period acquired the estate of Linhouse in this parish, to which the lands of Nether Alderston were for several generations attached.

The testament of Elizabeth Muirhead, spouse of James Flint in Nether Alderston, is dated 21st September 1657, and she died shortly

thereafter, nominating her said husband only executor and legator, and leaving to him her whole effects. The Lord Torphichen and John Hamilton of Grange are amongst the debtors, and John Muirhead of Linhouse is a creditor. James Flynt in Nether Alderstoun was ordained an elder of the parish church 12th August 1621, and in 1643 was appointed also collector of church penalties. He was deceased in 1666, when mention is made of Margaret Libbertoune, his widow. In 1664 Mr John Muirhead of Linhouse gave seisin in liferent of his lands of Nether Alderston, amongst others, to Agnes Murray his promised wife, in terms of the contract of marriage between them; and the lands are again specially designated in a precept of Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse as son and heir of Mr John Muirhead above mentioned, 4th March 1680.

The name of James Smith in Nether Alderston occurs frequently in the parish records; he was admitted to the eldership 24th December 1663, and two years later had seisin of certain houses at the West Bow of Edinburgh. James Smith, possessor of Nether Alderston, had a disposition of the lands by Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse, dated at Linhouse 17th November 1707; and he obtained a charter thereupon dated at Mid-Calder 31st January 1708. He died previous to 1723, and his daughter Isobel became the first wife of the Rev. Gilbert Hamilton, D.D., minister of Cramond, on 9th January 1742.

The lands of Nether Alderston are amongst those which, in the year 1709, were disjoined from the barony of Calder, and annexed, by Crown charter, in favour of Mr John Mitchell, to the barony of Alderston; and Adambrae Mill was erected on the lands by Mr Mitchell very shortly thereafter. There is, at this point, an apparent double proprietorship, which we may account for by supposing that James Smith and his heirs held the lands, or the greater portion of them, under the Baron of Alderston, as superior, which seems to have been the case. However this may be, it is clear that, in 1762, these lands formed part of the actual possessions in property of the Gartshores of Alderston. They were burdened in 1769 by James Gartshore W.S., with a liferent annuity to Helen Spottiswoode, his wife; and they were inherited by the younger James Gartshore of Alderston in 1774. By this proprietor there is a feu-charter of the lands of Nether Alderston, "which are retoured to be a 40s land of old extent

conform to a retour thereof to James Muirhead of Lachope, as heir in special to James Muirhead of Lachope, his father, of date 12th February 1624," in favour of John Gordon, junior, writer to the Signet, dated at Edinburgh, 24th December 1777. From Mr Gordon the estate passed to Isaac Grant, W.S., who had a charter thereof under the Great Seal, 3rd February 1778. He was a son of John Grant in Belnatomb, and after being apprenticed to Mr James Gartshore of Alderston, W.S., was admitted a member of the Society on 1st July 1763. He acted for some time as clerk to the Commissioners of Teinds; and he died, 27th December 1794, aged seventy. By his testamentary trustees, the property of Nether Alderston was conveyed on 13th July 1797 to John Balfour of Balbirny. This laird also obtained a crown Charter of the lands, dated 20th December 1811, to him, and to Lieut.-Colonel Robert Balfour of the 2nd or Royal North British Dragoons, his eldest son, in liferent and fee respectively. And by these proprietors the lands were again disposed to the Earl of Rosebery, to whose representative they now belong.

The Muirheads of Lachope bore : Argent, on a bend azure, a mullet betwixt two acorns of the first.

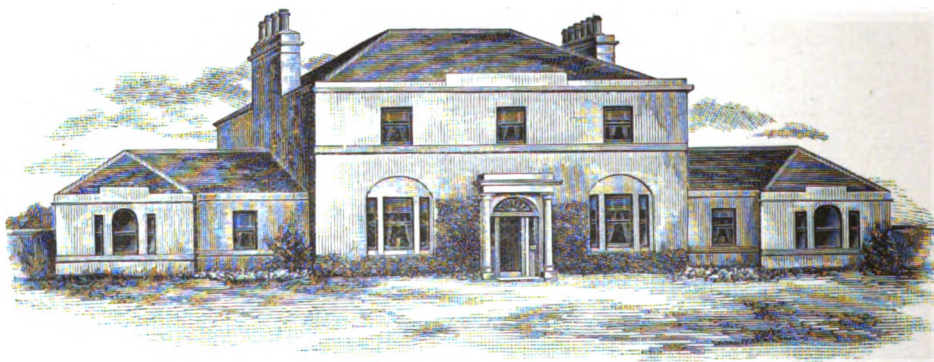


Fig. 14.—View of Bankton House from S.

#### BANKTON.

Bankton House, the seat of James Paterson of Bankton, is situated beside the Murieston water, at a distance of rather more than a mile from the village. It is a substantial structure, with a handsome facade in the

Graeco-Italian style, and with a low wing at either end, extending to the stables and offices in the rear of the mansion. The house was erected by James Bruce, Secretary of Excise for Scotland, the proprietor of the lands in 1812; and the work was carried out by Charles Black, a well-known builder in Edinburgh, at the commencement of the present century, whose two sons, Messrs Adam and Charles Black, became still more distinguished in their day and profession, as the founders of the eminent firm of publishers which bears their name. The detail and proportions of the front elevation are excellent, and the work throughout has been well executed, the two columns which support the porch being monoliths. In the garden there is a sundial of the usual horizontal type, which bears the inscription:—"Engraved for James Bruce, Esq., 1817."

The modern name of Bankton was bestowed upon the property by Mr Bruce already mentioned; the ancient name is Cockrig, and the lands formed part of the barony of Calder. Walter Tennent in Cockrig was decerned to make payment of certain moneys to John Pargillie, on 1st February 1585, and is likewise mentioned in a list of the occupiers of the tierce lands of the barony, 12th March 1590. Occasional references to Cockrig also appear in the transactions of our Kirk-Session in the 17th century. Thus, on 26th October 1646, Hew Walker, having slandered Jamis Aikmane in Cockrigs, is ordained to mak his publict repentance and satisfacioun therefor, in the face of the congregatioun. The history of the proprietorship is the same as that of Easter Murieston until the 18th November 1751, when that part of the lands of Murieston called Cockrig were disposed by Capt. George Dick of Greenbank to James Wylie in Mid-Calder, son of Alexander Wylie there. This gentleman also acquired the lands of Annetscross, near Bradshaw, and died at Mid-Calder on 21st April 1778, in his eighty-third year. He was twice married, firstly in 1728 to Helen Peebles, who died in 1764, aged seventy-three; and secondly, to Jean Dickson, a descendant of the family of Hartree, who died 9th December 1780, in her fifty-seventh year. By his second wife he had an only son, James Wylie, W.S., of Cockrig and Annetscross, clerk to the Signet, and a magistrate for the county of Edinburgh, who was seized of the lands of Easter and Wester Cockrig, on a precept of *Clare Constat* in his favour by

James, Lord Torphichen, dated 1st May 1785, and was also superior of Easter Murieston, and of Meadowhead, Powbeth, and Addiewell, in West Calder parish. He died 21st July 1812. On 5th July 1805 he obtained a charter of resignation of the lands of Cockrig under the Great Seal, which property he disposed in the same year to James Bruce, Accountant General of Excise in Edinburgh, whose seisin took place on 11th April 1807. This proprietor had a feu charter of the East Park of Murieston, with the teinds thereof, from Roger Aytoun of Murieston, W.S., 10th April 1807, and he subsequently acquired a portion, extending to about twenty-five acres, of the lands of Dressilrig, called Sandygate, which were incorporated in one estate, thenceforth called Bankton. Mr Bruce married Martha Gloag, and died on 13th February 1826, aged seventy-three years, leaving four sons and three daughters, namely, John of Bankton, who died in 1853, aged 62; Archibald of Bankton; Thomas, W.S., died 1837, aged 41; James, M.D., died 1828, aged 21; Martha, died 1840, aged 40; Isabella, married George M'Mikin Torrance of Threave; and Miss Margaret Jean Bruce. The property was sold by the eldest son to his brother, Archibald Bruce, who was an accountant in Edinburgh, where he died unmarried in 1867 in the seventy-second year of his age. After his death the estate was alienated by Thomas Bruce, merchant in Liverpool, proprietor in fee, with consent of Isabella Bruce or Torrance and Margaret Jean Bruce, life-renters of the subjects, to Robert Mason of Meadowbank, near Edinburgh, the disposition in whose favour is dated 10th May 1869. He held the property only until 1871, when it was again conveyed to the present proprietor.

#### CAIRNS.

The old castle of Cairns, which for upwards of four and a half centuries has reared its massive head against the storms and tempests of the upland district of the parish in which it is situated, is understood to have been built about the year 1440 by Admiral Creichtoun, Earl of Caithness, in whose family the property remained for several generations. Our earliest notice of the Creichtouns is at 2nd February 1418, when STEPHAN DE CRECHTOUN de Carnis appears amongst the witnesses to a

charter of the lands of Warmiston in the barony of Ratho, in favour of Andrew Wardlaw, by Robert Duke of Albany, regent of Scotland, at Strivelyn, 2nd Feb. 1418. He had two sons, namely, George of Cairns and James of Ruthven, provost of Edinburgh in 1478. The latter is



Fig. 15.—View of Cairns Castle from E.

designated "brother of George de Crechtoun of Carnis, knight" in a charter in his favour of the lands of Ruthven in the lordship of Brechin, 29th April 1452; and his descendants continued to hold that estate for several generations.

GEORGE DE CRYCHTOUN, son and heir of Stephen de Crychtoun of Cairns, grants a charter of all his lands in the toun of Lanyng in the

barony of Cramond\* to Edward Crechtoun of Kretilhouse 1st October 1427. He was knighted before 1440; was admiral of the kingdom from 1449 to 1453; and in the last-mentioned year was created by James II. Earl of Caithness for his good and faithful services. He is a frequent witness to the charters of James II. between 1439 and 1455, and many lands were bestowed upon him in the counties of Inverness, Perth, and Dumfries, as well as in Edinburgh, and Linlithgow shires. Besides the Castle of Cairns, which he is said to have erected, he had also Blackness Castle, whence he occasionally took his designation, and the story is told that he was confined for a certain period in his castle of Blackness by his own son, Sir James Creichtoun. He is designed George de Crechtoun de Blaknesse, Knycht, on 22nd December 1439, when he witnesses at Lanark a charter to Lord James Douglas. On his creation Earl of Caithness, George de Creichtoun, admiral, had a charter from the Crown, on his own resignation of the barony of Blackness, the barony of Strathurd, half the barony of Whitburn, the lands of Cairns, Bernetoune, Carnyhill, Aldinstoun, and Brethertoun in the county of Edinburgh, the lands of Grestoun and Gillishauch, co. Peebles, and others, which the King, with advice of his parliament, incorporates in the earldom of Caithness, at Edynburgh, 8th July, 1452. He appears to have been twice married. The second wife was Jonet, daughter of William Borthwick of Borthwick, and relict of James Douglas, Lord of Dalkeith, whom he married in 1452; and he was deceased prior to 25th March 1460, leaving three sons and a daughter, namely, Sir James of Cairns; Patrick, mentioned in 1491; John, mentioned also in 1491; and Jonet, who in 1460 was the wife of John Maxwell.

SIR JAMES CREICHTOUN of Cairns, who is said to have imprisoned his father in his own castle of Blackness, is mentioned as laird in 1463, when he sold and alienated the lands of Grevistoun and Gillishauch in the county of Peebles. He is designed as James Creichtoun de le Carnys, Knight, in charters of James III. in 1472 and 1491; and was deceased at

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\* The Rev. Dr Sommers, in his account of the Parish, published in 1838, alludes to a tradition respecting the Castle of Cairns, that it was "founded by Sir William Crichton, Lord High Admiral of Scotland, who had a possession in the parish of Cramond," but says that this report is destitute of any historical proof. This appears therefore to afford a rare instance of the truth of history being preserved during 400 years, in the unstable grasp of legendary lore.

8th April 1492, when Andrew his son had a grant of land in Edinburgh beneath the castle wall thereof. He married a sister of Mr William Levenax of Caly, and had two sons, Sir James of Cairns, and Andrew above-named, and two daughters, Margaret and Marion, who also survived him.

SIR JAMES CREICHTOUN of Cairns, the elder son of the foregoing, is styled son and heir-apparent of Sir James Creichtoune of Carnis 15th October 1472, when he obtained a grant of lands from James III. to him and to Margaret his wife. There appears also an item of £66, 13s. 4d. in the accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland in the year 1490-1, as due from Schir James Crechtoun of the Carnis, as a composition for a charter of tailze of his lands. He acquired various lands in Perthshire, and was on 7th June 1493 appointed Coroner for that county.

SIR JOHN CREICHTOUN of Cairns is the next laird mentioned. With Elizabeth Lyoun, his wife, he had from James V. a charter of lands in Clackmannanshire, 31st August 1529, which his Majesty unites and erects into the barony of Strathurde, and from which he thenceforth took his designation. Sir John Creichtoun of Straithurde and Jonet Sincler, his spouse, are mentioned in a charter of the lands of Petlandy, 2nd August 1535; and in 1547 he was appointed by the Privy Council one of the arbiters on behalf of Lord Ruthven and his followers, at feud with Lord Gray and others, to convene at Edinburgh, the 28 day of April nixtocum, to appunct and aggre upon all maner of querelis, debatis, and contraversyis quhatsumevir standing betwix thame, 9th May 1547. By him the lands of Cairns, Shielhill and Brotherton were alienated to John Tennent, in whose family they remained for about 150 years.

JOHN TENNENT of Cairns was a son of Alan Tennent in Wester Colzium, and he became an officer of the Household of King James V. He was descended of a family long connected with Edinburgh, a branch of which became landed proprietors in this district about this period. John Tennent was an esquire or man-at-arms in the Castle of Edinburgh in 1337 and in 1340; James Tennent was baron-bailie of Calder in 1478. John Tennent, familiar servant to the King, had a charter of the lands of Listounschiels, dated 26th February 1537, from Walter, Lord St John, Knight of Jerusalem and Preceptor of Torphichen, to him and to Mariota Achisoun his spouse and their heirs, whom failing, then to



Patrick Tennent, brother-german of the said John. He had also a charter of vendition and alienation of all and sindrie the lands of eister Carnis with the tower tharof, and of all and sindrie the lands of Schielhill and Broyrtoun with their pertinents, from James Creichtoun of Strathurd, Knyt, with remainder also to his brother Patrick, failing heirs of his own body, which charter was confirmed by John Sandilands, fiar of Calder, in the year 1542. He died without descendants and was succeeded by his said brother.

PATRICK TENNENT of Cairns is first mentioned on 10th October 1539, when he had a charter of West Colzame from John Sandilands, fiar of Calder, which narrates that the lands are occupied by Alan Tennent, his father. The charter is to Patrick Tennent, burgess of Edinburgh, and Elizabeth Hoppar his wife and their heirs. On 25th May 1541, he had another charter from Andrew Abbot of Melrose, of the £10 land of Hairhoip in the county of Peebles, to him and his said spouse, and to James Tennent, his son and apparent heir, upon the resignation of John Tennent, servitor to our Sovereign Lord, brother of the said Patrick. He ultimately succeeded his brother in the lands of Easter Cairns and Listounschiels, as appears by the following confirmation, produced by his grandson, and recorded in the books of the Baron Court of Calder in 1586.

1586, *April* 19.—Compeirit Johnne Tennand appearand of Cairnis and producit ane confirmatioun gewin be Johne Sandilandis fiar of Calder, with consent of James Sandilandis of Calder, Knycht, franktenementar of ye said baronie, of ane charter of vendition and alienation of his loving tenant Jhone Creichtoun of Strathurde, Knyt, maid to ane honest man Jon tennent, familiar servitor to umqll our Souerane that last decessit, and to Marioun Aitkinsoun his spouse and the airs to be lauchfullie gottin betuix thame, qlk failzeing to ye airis lauchfullie to be gottin of the sd Johnis bodie, qlk failzeing to Patrik tenent, broyr-german to ye said Johne and his airs quhatsumewir, off all and sindrie ye said Johne Creichtoun's lands off Eister Carnis with ye tower tharof, and of all and sindrie his lands of Schielhill and Broyrtoun with their pertinents, to be halden fra the sd John Creichtoun and his airis, and of ye baron of ye baronie of Calder Comitiss. At Edynburgh, xvj. Junii 1542 zeiris.

JAMES TENNENT of Cairns, who is mentioned as apparent heir in the charter of 1541, succeeded his father above named. On 8th December 1582, he makes complaint to the Privy Council against John, Earl of Mortoun, warden and justice of the West Marches of this realme, that

upon "alhallowevin last wes" certain commoun and notorious thevis, of the names of Armstrang and Littil, being the said earl's proper men, tenants and dependers, came with their accomplices under silence of night to his lands of Hairhoip in Tweddell, "and thair thiftuouslie straw, reft, and away tuke six scoir and ten yowis and weddiris pertening to him." The earl, having failed to appear, is denounced a rebel and put to the horn. James Tennent of Cairnis attended a Court of the Barony on 1st February 1585; he is mentioned amongst the vassals bound to present themselves at Wappenschaws in 1586; and his name likewise appears in a list of "Landit men" prepared for James VI. in 1590.

1588, *Aprilis* 9—The qlk day the bailie decerns James tennent of Cairns as cautioner for Patrick tennent, to pay to George tennent in Calsayend, xxxiiij s. iiij d. for ii firlots blak aittis. Item for meit and drink furneisit to him betuix alhalowmess and zuill 1586, v merks vj s. viij d.

James Tennent of Cairnis was protected by the Privy Council 12th June 1590, and on the 19th of the same month James Lawsoun in Cairnmure became caution for James Tennent of Cairnis in £1000, and for Johnne Tennent, younger of Cairnis, in £500, that they should not molest sundry persons. James is likewise mentioned as an absentee from a Baron Court held on 27 April 1591. The lonely situation of the old tower, remote as it was from any centre of habitation, is sufficient to justify the strength of its walls and defences, but this did not prevent the lands from being exposed to frequent depredations of border thieves in the lawless days of James VI.'s reign. Accordingly, we find Lance Armstrang of Quhythauch, and other Armstrongs, Scotts, and Elliots, for whom Sir Walter Scott of Branxholm is answerable, upon 9th August 1600, stole furth of the lands of Cairnis, four scoir oxen together with horses to the value of 6000 merks, and slew the following persons [*names blank in register*] and dismembered divers other good subjects quha rais to the fray for reskewing the saidis guidis. As the delinquents are "disobedient and unansuerable thewis and lymnaris haveing schaikin af all feir of God, reverence of the law and regaird of honestie," and from whom no redress can be got, the laird of Branxholm is directed to enter them before the Council on 15th March ensuing, or else to compensate Sir James Sandilands, in whose name the complaint is made, according to the following prices: viz., five oxen worth £100, five kye worth £50, five oxen

worth 100 merks, a horse and a mare worth 100 merks, "ane grite broun horse" worth 500 merks, a young gray staint horse worth 1000 merks, a gray hackney worth 200 merks, "ane lyart haknay" worth 100 merks, a black 'nag worth £30, and a brown horse worth 100 merks,—the complainer having by his "grit aith" declared that the goods were of the value forsaide.

James Tennent of Cairnis makes his complaint to the Privy Council in November of the same year, that Sir Michael Balfour of Burley had charged him to buy a stand of horseman's arms, conform to the Act of Estates requiring the proprietors of lands to maintain warlike equipments. The "pruife of the lance and sword" was to cost £50, and the "pruife of hacquebute" £60. The complainer, however, alleges that he is "bot ane verie meane man," liferenter of a roun called Hairhoip, whereof his son is fiar, which yields only 300 merks, and that he has nothing else to sustain him "now in his ageit and latter dayis." And true it is that he is already provided with better arms than is required for a person of his degree, namely, a jack, knapsaw, spear, plait-sleeves, hagbut and gauntlet, and, being past the age of sixty years, is exempt from military service. Further, he is subject to "dyvers discassis and infirmiteis, and is not able to mak service in weiris on horse nor fute." He is ordered to buy a stand of footman's arms only.

According to *Nisbet's Heraldry*, James Tennent married a daughter of Somervell of Drum, and he was deceased prior to 5th April 1603. He had two sons, namely John, who succeeded him, and Mr Joseph, A.M., of Listonscheils, who became minister of Bedrule. The latter-named received his degree from the Edinburgh University 10th August 1595, and, previous to his induction at Bedrule in 1601, he had officiated for some time at Traquair, of which parish he was the first regular Presbyterian minister. He also appears to have held the charge of Abbotsrule for several years in conjunction with Bedrule, and he died in 1633 aged about fifty-eight. On 27th July 1632 he "sett a tack of the teandes of the paroch of Bedreull to Mr James Lausone of Cairnemuire for his lyff-time, the lyff-time of four several aires, and fyue nineteen zeirs thairefter," but this was rectified by Act of Parliament 17th November 1641.

JOHN TENNENT of Cairns, the elder son of James Tennent before mentioned, was born about the year 1572. He appears first in 1586 as appearand

of Cairns, and again on 18 May 1591, when he became cautioner that the occupiers of the tierce lands of the barony of Calder pertaining to "Dame Jean Ross, relict of the deceast Sir James Sandilands of Calder, Knight, and Harie Stewart of Cragyhall now her spouse," shall desist and cease therefrom under a penalty of 100 merks each. In the following year, he was surety for Sym Scott of Bonnytoun that he should not resett nor intercommune with Francis, Erll Bothuil, nor his accomplices during his rebellion; and in 1595 Hary Stewart of Cragyhall and James Tennent of Lennox (Linhouse) are caution to the Privy Council that Johnne Tennent younger of Cairnis shall not harm Alexander Douglas, macer. On 5th April 1603 there are two precepts by James, Lord Torphichen, in favour of John Tennand, now of Cairnes, as nearest heir of the deceast James Tennand of the same, his father, of all and whole the lands of Easter Cairnes, with the old tower thereon and the lands of Schiellhill and Brethertoun, within the barony of Calder Comitis, to hold of the said James and his successors, Lords and Barons of Calder, for the yearly payment of six silver pennies on the ground of Cairns at each feast of Pentecost, if demanded allenerlie; also of the five merk land of Listounscheillis in the barony of Auldlistoun. The witnesses to these instruments and the seisins following thereon are James Tennand of Linhous, Mr John Spottiswood, rector of Calder, Mr Robert Williamsoun of Mureston, and Mr Peter Kinloch of Alderstoun,—James Tennand, eldest lawful son to the said John Tennand, now of Cairnes, being also present. John Tennent of Kairnis was on an assize 21st June 1605, and in 1608, he becomes surety in 2000 merks for James, Lord Torphichen, that he shall not harm James Polwart of Cauldlaw. In the following year he appears again as cautioner that Stevin Lokhart, tailor, servitour to my Lord Torphechin, shall answer before the Privy Council on the 13th February to a complaint against him by the deacon of the tailors of Edinburgh. He married Jean Hamilton, who is mentioned as his wife in a charter by her husband of the five merk land of Listounscheillis in favour of Mr William Scot of Elie, 12th July 1603. This property, as we have already seen, came subsequently into the possession of Mr Joseph Tennent, minister of Bedrule, to whom his brother John Tennent of Cairnes was retoured heir in some tenements in Edinburgh 11th May 1633, and in the lands of Listonshiels, 1st December 1637. The laird died previous to 25th February 1647, having had a son James who

succeeded him, and three daughters, namely—Anna, baptized 4th March 1606; Jean, married (contract dated 9th August 1624) to William Campbell, son of the deceased Colin Campbell of Aberughill, which Jean died before 16th February 1635; and Marjory married to John Brown as below.

1632, *December 11*—Jhone Broun, zounger in Gorgymiln, and Marjory Tennent dochter to Jhone Tennent of Cairnis, war maryed be ane warrand from ye Byschop of Edinburgh.

A curious complaint regarding the position of his seat in the parish church was made in 1629.

1629 *June 21*—The Seassioun, becaus of ane complaint gewin in be ye lard off Selmes against ye lard of Carnis for taking away off ye sight of ye minister fra him be his desk, it was thocht gud that Carnis sould be spokin against his compeirance ye nixt day to advyse in ye said matter with ye Seassion of ye Kirk.

*June 28*--This day the Lard of Carnis, compeiring, refusit to all things thay advysit him anent Selmes.

JAMES TENNENT of Cairns, the succeeding laird, was served heir-general of John Tennent of the same 25th February 1647. Very shortly thereafter, he commenced to give trouble to his parish minister, whose pronounced republican tendencies seem to have alienated the support of the major part of the heritors.

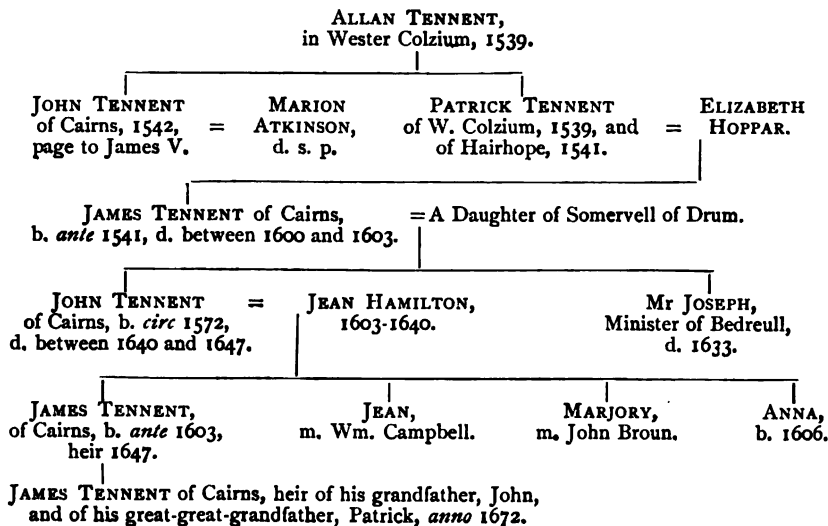
1647, *April 4*—The laird of Cairnis delaitit to have drunken in Jamis Bischops house about fyftein days since in tyme of the afternoon preaching, denyed he was drinking, but alledges he had "the collict" and was obliged to lie down; and whereas it was said of him he shot a hynd yt day, he said he shot him on the Thursday befoir.

1653, *October 27*—The whilk day, the Laird of Cairnes compered before the Sessione and being sharplie rebuked for not frequenting the Kirk on the Lord's day, he promising to amend, was dismissed.

The "amendment" here promised did not, however, take place, and on four subsequent occasions in 1654-6 the laird and Laidy Cairnes, togidder with thair servants were rebuked for not cumming to the kirk on the Lord's day, and withall assured that if they cam not, thay wold be debarred frome the Sacramentes in tyme cuminge. He had a son, James, who succeeded him, and two daughters, Margaret, married to John Somervell, writer in Edinburgh; and Lillias, who married Gavin Jamesone at the Waulkmyln of Calder, and had two daughters, namely, Jean Jamesone, who died without

descendants, and Margaret Jamesone, who married first to James Somervell of Drum, Lord Somervell, and secondly to James Drummond, Clerk of the Bills.

JAMES TENNENT of Cairns, the next laird, was seized in the month of July 1672, of the lands of Easter Cairnes with the tower thereof, the lands of Shiellhill, Badpark, and Brothertoune, as "also of that other half of the said lands of Cairnes, now called West Cairnes," with the pendicle thereof called Wester Calsaend, with houses, biggings, etc., upon a precept of *Clare Constat* by Walter, Lord Torphichen, as heir of the deceased John Tennent of Cairnes, his grand-father. At the same date there is another precept by Lord Torphichen setting forth that the deceased Patrick Tennent, burgess of Edinburgh, great great-grandfather of James Tennent now of Cairnes, died vest and seized as of fee in the lands of Wester Colzame, previously occupied by Allan Tennent his father, lying in the barony of Calder, and directing sasine of the same lands to James Tennent now of Cairnes as lawful and nearest heir of the before-mentioned Patrick. The notices of these technical instruments may appear somewhat tedious, but they have a value genealogically, and it may be convenient at this point to review the several generations of the Cairns family in a tabular form :—



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James Tennent of Cairns was in May 1663 charged to answer to the Session of the kirk anent his clandestine marriage, but appeared not; and he and Jean Graham his spouse were again cited in the month of July, as well as several other persons who were rebuked for having been witnesses to the "disordourlie mariage of the lard of Carnis." On 30th November 1667 he grants a bond binding himself to infest Jean and Margaret Jamesone, his nieces, in an annual rent of £48 out of the lands of Wester Colzium, and in 1672, there is another bond by him upon the same lands in favour of Robert and James Grahame, lawful children of the deceased Hugh Grahame in Nether Williamstoun. Jeane Grahame, spouse to James Tennent of Cairnes, had seisin in liferent of the lands of Listounshiels on a disposition by her said husband 14th July 1679; and in the same year, having no children of his own, he made a settlement of his whole lands as well as any others which might pertain to him the tyme of his deceise, "quhensoevir the samyn at the pleasour of God sall happin" in favour of William Tennent, mariner, grandson of umquhile Mr John Tennent, persone of Calder, [who was] sone to James Tennent of Linhouse, under reservation of the liferent to himself, an annuity to Jeane Grahame his spouse, surviving him, and subject to any other burdens which he might thereafter lay upon the lands. The disposition is subscribed at the Cairnes 27th December 1679, William Listoun of Easter Colzium and Walter Johnstoun, notary in Calder, writer of the document, being witnesses.

During the religious persecutions which characterised the latter part of Charles II.'s reign, the Cairn hills were the scene of conventicles, or meetings for worship conducted by outlaws and the proscribed clergy; and they also afforded hiding-places in their recesses and caverns for the persecuted Presbyterians. We have noticed elsewhere a gathering of this description held on Cairn-hill on 1st June 1684, and another at Caldstone-slap on the 8th of the same month, regarding which Tennent of Cairns was charged to appear and give evidence before the Privy Council. This laird died in the month of March 1685, and Jean Grahame, his widow, afterwards espoused George Baillie of Manorhall. She was still living in 1709, when she was seized of an annual rent of 300 merks out of the lands of Overlongford. Margaret Tennent, sister-german to the late James Tennent of Cairns, and relict of John Somervell, writer

in Edinburgh, and Margaret Jamesone, his niece, spouse of James Somervell, elder of Drum, gave in a renunciation of being heir on 18th November 1685. After this Thomas Somervell, tailor, burgess of Edinburgh obtained a decree of the lands 5th March 1686 for payment to him of certain obligations due, and he was formally infest therein on the 23rd June in the same year. Captain William Tennent, however, who is mentioned in the above-mentioned disposition, afterwards redeemed these charges, and was adjudged by the Lords of Council and Session to be heritable proprietor 18th February 1693.

CAPT. WILLIAM TENNENT of Cairns is designed skipper in Kirkcaldy, but his relationship to the race of the preceding lairds is not otherwise indicated than in the disposition of 1679. He had a charter of the property from Walter, Lord Torphichen, 4th August 1694, which shews the lands at this time held by the family, namely those of Easter and Wester Cairns, Scheillhill, Baadpark, Wester Colzeam and Wester Calseyend, with manor place, etc., in the parish of Calder and shire of Edinburgh. And in a bond by William Tennent, "skipper in Leith," 15th April 1699, the lands of Listonshiels and Easter Calsayend are embraced, in addition to those above-named.

He was the last laird of the surname of Tennent, and the lands next came into the possession of Mr John Mitchell of Alderston, a writer in Edinburgh, and an extensive landed proprietor in the parish. He had a disposition of the lands of Cairns, etc., by James, Lord Torphichen, on 29th July 1708, and the same are embraced in a charter in his favour under the Great Seal 9th February 1709, whereby the lands therein named are dissolved and disjoined from the barony of Calder and all other baronies to which they were previously annexed, and united to the recently erected barony of Alderston. Mr John Mitchell died in the year 1730, and the lands of East Cairns and Baadpark with the old tower thereon, were alienated by his son and successor William Mitchell, surgeon, apothecary and convener of the trades of Edinburgh, in the year 1737. The purchasers were George Gray, tenant in East Cairns, and John Gray, portioner of Kirknewton, his younger brother, to whom the estate was conveyed in two *pro indiviso* halves on 29th December, 1737.

The property was held by the respective descendants of these two



brothers for a period of about eighty years, after which the integrity of the lands was again established through the purchase of both shares by the Rev. Dr. Laird. We have therefore at this point to follow their history, which we shall do briefly, in the two lines of heirs-portioners.

George Gray, tenant in East Cairns, the elder brother, had two sons, namely, George, who succeeded his father as occupier, and John, who became a writer in Edinburgh. The last-mentioned had a disposition of his father's share of the estate on 10th April 1751, under the burden of £100 Scots yearly, to be paid to his said father during all the days and years of his lifetime. This John Gray, writer in Edinburgh, married Elizabeth Gray, and had, besides two daughters, a son, James, to whom he disposed his half of the lands of East Cairns, and Baadpark, with the old Tower thereon, as also the half of the seat in Calder kirk, and of the burial-ground thereto belonging, under the burden before-mentioned, and subject also to the further charge of £10 sterling, to be paid annually to Elizabeth Gray, spouse of the said John, the granter hereof. The date of this disposition is 31st December 1771, and John Gray, writer, and his son James, were both deceased before 1777. On 17th December in that year, Janet Gray, spouse of Alexander Reid, tenant in Humble, and Elizabeth Gray, her sister, were retoured heirs-portioners, and of provision, of the late James Gray, their brother-german in the above-named subjects. Janet, the elder sister, subsequently became sole proprietor of this half of the lands. Her husband was a son of George Reid of Balerno, and he afterwards became possessed of the property of Rathobank in the parish of Ratho; he died before 1806, and George Reid of Rathobank, his son, was heir of his mother of a half share of the lands of Cairns and Baadpark, of which he was seized 8th July 1815. By him the property was conveyed to the Rev. Hugh Laird, D.D., in 1818.

Adverting now to the second half share of the lands, we notice that this was disposed by William Mitchell, before designed, to John Gray, portioner of Kirknewton, in liferent, and to George Gray, younger, his son, in fee. George succeeded as heritable proprietor, and on 25th January 1775 conveyed his portion to George Gray, tenant in East Cairns, who was his own cousin-german, and whose brother, John Gray, at this time held the other half share of the property. The last mentioned George

Gray married Jean Flint, and had a large family of sons and daughters, namely: George, born 1766; John, born 1770; James, born 1772; Alexander, born 1776; Robert, born 1782; Jean, born 1764, married Alexander Miller, saddler in Mid-Calder; Elizabeth, born 1768, married John Thomson in Stenypath; Katherine, born 1774; Janet, born 1778; Margaret, born 1780; Agnes, born 1784, died 1809; and Mary, born 1787, who also died young. His will is dated at Cairns, 11th February 1803, and he died in the year 1813.

The proprietorship became now again consolidated through the purchase of both portions by the Rev. Hugh Laird, D.D., who was seized of the lands upon a disposition from the trustees of the late George Gray of Cairns, of date 20th August 1819, and another disposition from George Reid of Rathobank, dated 2nd December 1818. This clergyman was a student at Glasgow University in 1788, and was licensed by the Presbytery there 1st July 1795. After officiating for nearly two years at Norriestown, near Kincardine, he was appointed in 1802 minister of Portmoak, in Kinross-shire, where he ministered for about forty years. He was distinguished amongst his brethren as an eloquent preacher and an able organiser; "his style was calm, clear, and truly rational—assigning to doctrine and moral duty their appropriate places." The degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by the University and Marischal College of Aberdeen in October 1813; he joined the Free Secession in 1843, and died 28th August 1849 in the eighty-sixth year of his age. Dr Laird married, in 1802, Elizabeth Blackhall, of the parish of Dunbog, who died on 8th November, 1843, aged sixty, and with whom he had a numerous family, namely: James who died in 1832; Rev. Alexander Oswald, minister of Abbotshall from 1839 till the Disruption, and thereafter of the Free Church of St John at Dundee; Hugh, a writer in Kinross, died 1882 aged seventy-two; Rev. John, minister of Inverkeilor 1836-1843, and afterwards of the Free Church of St George at Montrose; Robert, died 1842 aged thirty; George; Rev. Henry Moncrieff, minister of the Free Church at Leslie, Fife, died 1852; Michael Linning, died 1838 aged twenty; Elizabeth-Simson; Amelia-Balfour; Mary-Henderson; and Christiana, who married the Rev. James Swinton, minister of the Free Church of Portmoak.

On 15th April 1823 Dr Laird granted a feu charter "of two acres of

the grounds of East Cairns at or around the present sheepfolds on the Edinburgh and Lanark road, near the 13th mile-stone, for the erection thereon of a new Inn and offices to be called the Cairns Castle Inn." The building erected at that time has now been converted into the school-house of Causewayend. Dr Laird's connection with this estate was not of long duration, for he again disposed the united lands of Cairns and Baadpark to Mr Michael Linning of Colzium, clerk to the Signet, on 13th December 1827.

This proprietor was a son of Thomas Linning, and grandson of the Rev. Thomas Linning, minister of Lesmahagow, and was born in the year 1775. He married 29th April 1800 a daughter of Henry Patrick Wilson in the East India Company's service; and was admitted a member of the Society of Writers to His Majesty's Signet on 18th June in the following year. He was a man whose genius, in a variety of directions, was in advance of the age in which he lived. It is upon these lands and the adjacent hills that the water of Leith takes its rise, and to Mr Linning belongs the credit of having first perceived the importance and capabilities of this stream, both with regard to procuring from it an abundant and constant supply of water power for the use of machinery, and for furnishing pure water to the city of Edinburgh. As early as the year 1818, he advocated the construction of a compensation reservoir on the lands of East Cairns and Harperrig, for retaining the flood and surplus waters of the stream; and upon his initiative various surveys and reports were made by experienced engineers. Mr Linning, however, did not live to see effect given to his theories, but like so many whose lives have been a blessing to their race, he expended his energies, as well as the whole of his material wealth, upon benefits which have since been reaped by his fellows. He died on 17th February 1838, leaving his affairs in an embarrassed situation, and the lands were sold for behoof of his creditors to Robert Downie of Appin, who held a bond for £5000 on the lands of East Cairns and East Colzium executed by Mr. Linning in 1829. Shortly after this, the Edinburgh Water Company was formed for the purpose of carrying out the above-named projects, and they acquired the property in November, 1844. The springs are now tapped on the lands of Colzium and Baadpark, whence two pipes, each 18 inches in diameter, convey the water to

Edinburgh; and the reservoir to equalise the flood of the stream—rendered all the more necessary by the absorption of a portion of the supply at the springs—was constructed in 1845, and enlarged in 1891. The upper portion of the lands, denominated Baadpark, was sold by the Edinburgh Water Company in 1849, James Gray being the purchaser; and it was again conveyed in 1864 by his testamentary trustees to William Hamilton of Cairns, the present proprietor, who also purchased the lands of East Cairns from the company in 1869.

The present house of Cairns was erected in 1872, upon the site of the old farm-steading, and under the shadow of the castle ruin, which forms a picturesque view from the modern windows. The castle, which is situated upon a small eminence on the southern bank of the burn, formerly consisted of two square towers about 40 feet in height, arranged upon the L plan, with a turret stair, giving access to the upper flats of both wings. The basement was vaulted, two massive cylindrical arches supporting the main floor of the castle. Beneath these

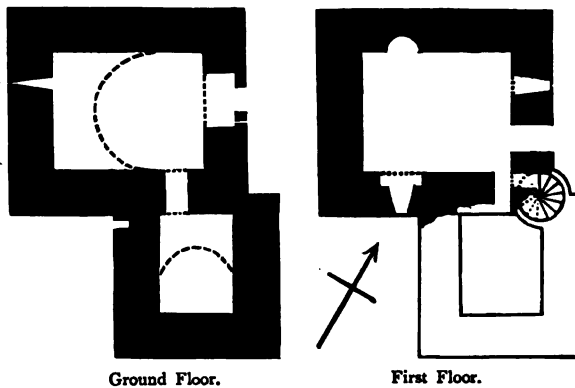


Fig. 16.—Plan of Cairns Castle.

arches were dungeons or cellars, approached from the outside by a circular-headed doorway, and having an arrow-slit in the west wall. The jambs of this arch are deeply rabbitted and the door opened outwards; a small squint or loop-hole exists (Fig. 15) whence observation

could be made by those within of any approach to the entrance. An arched opening communicates with the inner and smaller dungeon where there are no windows. The doorway of the main floor of the castle is also on the eastern side and must have been approached by an outside stair which no longer exists. The upper portion of the structure could scarcely have been in keeping with the older style of baronial architecture, the windows being larger than is usual in buildings of the same period.

Indeed, there are indications that the top flat or storey may be of a rather later date than the lower part of the building, and if this be true, the turret stair must also have been an addition not contemplated in the original design, which appears to be the case from its peculiar form and construction.

The proprietor has a drawing of Cairns Castle executed by Wintour in 1855, which shews the two towers intact. Since that date one of these towers has almost entirely disappeared, and but for the iron tie-rod with which the ruin has recently been held together, the second tower would probably have fallen ere this. The present aspect of the structure is represented in our illustration on page 101. An excellent view of Cairns Castle from the south, and one also from the N.W. are given in Mr. J. Munro Bell's *Castles of the Lothians*, published in 1893.

The house of Baadpark was built by George Gray of Cairns, whose initials with the date 1798, are cut upon the lintel over the entrance door.

In the heraldic MSS. of Sir James Balfour, of date about 1640, the armorial bearings of Tennent of that Ilk are given as argent a boar's head coupé in chief and two crescents in the flanks sable. James Tennend of Cairns registered his arms in 1672: Argent a boar's head betwixt three crescents sable, with the motto PRO UTILITATE. And at the same date William Tennend of Lennos [Linhouse] recorded a similar coat, within a bordure sable, which seems to imply that the house of Cairns was regarded as the older or representative line.

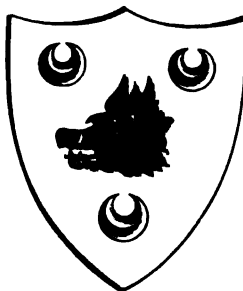


Fig. 17.—Arms of Tennent of Cairns.

## WESTER CAUSEWAYEND.

The lands of Wester Causewayend in the southern or highland district of the parish were anciently attached to the estate of Cairns,—the lands of Cairns Easter and Wester, with the pendicle thereof called Wester Calsayend, being frequently mentioned in the seisins and dispositions of that property.

The name is no doubt derived from the old paved or causewayed road which appears to have terminated here. The construction of this road has been ascribed by the old writers to the Romans. "At one time," adds the Rev. Dr Sommers in 1838, "this causeway was in tolerable repair until several years ago, when by an unlucky oversight, it was dug up and much injured and obliterated by a roadmaker who used the stones in the way of his profession, to save himself the expense of procuring other more distant material." Upon the modern house of Wester Causewayend the initials J. G. are cut with the date 1802.

With the sole exception of the Calder House inheritance, this small property affords the only instance in the parish of lands which have descended in one family for a period of nearly 200 years. The Grahams of Causewayend appear to have first become connected with the estate upon the extinction of the old race of Tennent of Cairns. James Tennent of Cairns, the last laird in the direct line, was called before the Kirk-Session in 1663 to answer respecting his "clandestine marriage" with Jean Graham. He died in 1685, and his widow thereafter married George Baillie of Manorhall. We observe also a bond by the same James Tennent, dated 26th July 1672, of an annual rent of £40 out of the lands of Wester Colzium in favour of Robert Graham in Corstorphine, in name and behalf of Robert and James Graham, his nephews, children of the late Hugh Graham in Nether Williamston.

Whether connected with this race or not, we find mention made of

JOHN GRAHAM of Wester Causewayend, who on 18th September 1737 had a disposition of the lands of Causewayend in the parish of Mid-Calder from William Mitchell, surgeon, with consent of the trustees of the late Mr John Mitchell of Alderston, his father. John Graham of Wester Causewayend died on the 9th March 1754, aged sixty-four years and is

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buried in the parish churchyard of Mid-Calder. He was succeeded in the property by

JAMES GRAHAM of Wester Causewayend, who married Christian Somervell, and had three sons and two daughters, namely, James, his heir; Thomas, in Easter Causewayend, whose wife, Margaret Waddell, died in the year 1805, aged fifty-two; John, of Handaxwood, father of the late James Graham of Muirhousedykes, and of John Graham of Meadowhead, and other children; Christina, married John Graham, tenant in West Colzium, and died in 1808, aged seventy-five years; and Janet, who married Flint of Polbeth.

JAMES GRAHAM of Wester Causewayend, the eldest son of the above-mentioned family, married a daughter of Gray of Cairns, and had a son John, who succeeded to the estate, and three daughters, namely, Janet, who married John Gray, Beerside; Christina, who became the wife of William Graham, Auchinoul; and Elizabeth, married to James Waddell, Crofthead.

JOHN GRAHAM of Wester Causewayend, the last laird in the male line, died in the year 1869, and was succeeded by his only daughter, Mrs Janet Graham Kerr, the present proprietrix, widow of the late William Kerr, occupier of the lands, who died 8th September 1870, aged forty-five years.

#### CALDERBANK.

This house stands, as its name implies, on the bank of the Calder Water, between its confluence with the Almond and the Edinburgh and Glasgow road. It has been erected upon the lands of the old Waulk-myln of Calder, a term signifying a factory for subjecting home-manufactured cloths to the processes of fulling and dyeing. The Waulk-myln was the indispensable adjunct of every barony in ancient times, and although the original buildings were converted into a brewery in the early part of last century, yet it appears that dye-works existed at Calderbank so recently as the year 1770. Alexander Wylie, dyer in Mid-Calder, died on 6th January 1721, and was succeeded in the business by James Wylie, his son, who became possessed of the lands of Cockrig and others, besides various subjects in the village. He died in 1778, and "his two-seventh parts of

the lands of the Waulkmiln of Calder now commonly called Calderbank," were in the possession of his son and heir, James Wylie of Annetcross, W.S., in the year 1799.

Gawin Jamesoun at the Walkmyln was to present himself with a horse worth xx lib at the Wappenschaw display in August 1586. A second Gavin Jamisone at the Walk mill of Calder married Lillias Tennent, second daughter of James Tennent of Cairns ; and had two daughters, Jean and Margaret, who with their parents were all living in 1667. The elder daughter died without descendants, but Margaret Jamisone succeeded, on the death of her uncle, James Tennent of Cairns, younger, as co-heir at law to that estate, which was renunciated by her and her aunt in favour of a distant relative, Captain William Tennent. This was in the year 1686, and Margaret Jamieson was then the second wife of James Somervell, elder of Drum, properly 11th Lord Somervell, but that his grandfather did not assume the title. It appears that the late laird of Cairns had bequeathed his estate to Captain William before-mentioned under burden of his debts, which were considerable, and to annual rent charges to his widow, sister, and niece ; and amongst the many discharges recorded by William on his redemption of the property in 1688 appears a receipt under the hand of John Tennent, merchant in Edinburgh, for £10, for a plaid to the said Margaret Jamieson, by way of compliment to her. After the death of her first husband, Somervell of Drum, Margaret married again to James Drummond, Clerk of the Bills, and she was deceased in 1726, leaving a daughter Margaret Drummond. Gavin Jamisone died prior to 5th March 1688, and was succeeded by George Jamisone in the Waulk myln of Calder. George had three sons, namely, Henry of Walkmill, Gavin of Bridgend, and Walter, who was seized of an annual rent of £60 furth of the lands of Bridgend, 10th September 1704, of which right his son George Jamisone, tenant in the mains of Pumpherston was heir in 1725. We shall return in a moment to the eldest son, but we may notice of Gavin, the second son, that he acquired the lands of Bridgend of Calder in the year 1695 ; and at a subsequent period had a disposition (wherein he is designed notary at Bridgend), of the lands of Easter Dressilrig, from James, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Dame Christian Primrose, his mother, 16th October 1704. He died



in 1722, and James Jamisone, his son, had precept as heir of his deceased father of the lands of Bridgend, with the seat in Calder kirk thereto belonging.

Henry Jamisone was baptized on the 18th February 1658, and succeeded his father in the Walkmill. He is mentioned on 24th May 1699, when Hendrie Jamisone in Walkmylne of Calder, and Isobel Donaldsone, his spouse, grant a disposition of two houses and yards in the town of Mid-Calder to John Dick, merchant there. Then, in 1718 there is a disposition by the Lord Torphichen in favour of Henry Jamisone, eldest son of the late George Jamisone, in the Walkmilne, of that part of the lands of the Walkmilne of Calder, and the milne itself, as presently possessed by the said Henry, dated at Calder House, 9th May 1718, Mr John Mitchell of Alderston being a witness. In the year 1725 he acquired from Margaret Drummond a part of the lands of Pumpherston called Bridgehauch, with the piece of brae bewest the same, and little hauch at the foot of Powispath. The progress of writs narrated in this disposition shows that these lands had previously pertained to Jean Jamisone, sister of the above-mentioned Gavin Jamisone at the Walkmill, and spouse of John Calder of Coustoun; and that they were by her conveyed on 12th July 1680 to Margaret Jamisone, her niece, then wife of James Somervell of Drum. By her second husband, James Drummond, Margaret had a daughter, Margaret Drummond, who succeeded her in these lands, and with consent of her husband, James Ferguson, goldsmith in Perth, dispooned the same to Henry Jamisone of Walk Mill on 15th November 1725. And the same lands were confirmed to the said Henry by Alexander Hamilton of Pumpherston, as superior, 2nd October 1736. The lands of Bridgehauch, as above specified, were again conveyed on 23rd October 1738 to James Moubray, brewer at Walkmill; and we may here remark that they were acquired in 1763 by the trustees of the United Presbyterian congregation, whose first meeting-house was erected thereon in the following year. Henry Jamisone of Walkmill was ordained an elder of the parish church 29th January 1699; and he died in the month of December 1739, mention being made in his will of his sons and daughters, as under, viz. : Gawine, sailor in Leith; Elizabeth, relict of Thomas Mercer of Binnhall; Helen, relict of Jamieson of Bridgend; Christian, spouse of

James Moubray, brewer at the Walkmyln of Calder; Jean (born 1708), spouse of John Schaw, wright at Bridgehouse of Mid-Calder; James; and George Jamisones, which three last were deceased before 1743. By arrangement between these heirs-portioners, the five-seventh parts of the lands of the Waulkmyln of Calder with the Waulkmyln itself, and other houses and biggings, as they were sometime possessed by the deceased Henry Jamisone, were inherited by James Moubray, the husband of Christian Jamisone; and upon an old plan of the village made in 1763, "Moubry's lands" are marked as embracing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  acres on the west side of the road leading to the North Bridge, where the house of Georgeville now stands, in addition to the two acres between the road and the river. This proprietor was deceased prior to 27th November 1771, when he was succeeded by his eldest son, Henry Moubray, a merchant at Gibraltar, who on his return to his native parish, erected the present house as a private residence for himself and his family, and gave to the lands the more euphonious name of Calderbank. He obtained a charter of the property on his own resignation from Elizabeth, Lady Torphichen, and Major Andrew, and Captain Robert Sandilands, as tutors to James, Lord Torphichen, dated at Calder House, 9th January 1772; and he died on the 14th June 1803, aged sixty-nine years, and was buried at the churchyard of Mid-Calder. In his property of Calderbank he was succeeded by his eldest daughter, Miss Alison Moubray, who had a charter from Lord Torphichen in 1818. This lady died on the 27th December 1842, in her sixty-ninth year, and the property of Calderbank was acquired by the late Peter M'Lagan, afterwards of Pumpherston.

## CHARLESFIELD.

This estate is situated about half in this parish and half in the parish of West Calder, its extent being embraced between the Almond, the Breich, and the Killandean Waters. The site of the present mansion-house upon the lands of Howatston, like the name which now designates the lands, is comparatively modern; the ancient seat of the property was at Grange of Breich, its position being marked by the modern farm-steading of Grange. The estate having come into the possession of the

Rev. Dr Hardy in the year 1786, he gave it the name of "Charlesfield" in memory of the Rev. Charles Wilkie, under whose will he acquired it, and in the years 1795-8 he erected the present residence at the eastern end of the property, near the village of Livingston. It is a plain rectangular structure of two stories and attics, with a low range of buildings containing the kitchen offices at the eastern end; and to this a square tower with pointed windows and terminating in embattled parapets was added at the



Fig. 18.—View of Charlesfield House from S E.

N E. angle by Sir William Andrew in 1879. The lodge at the entrance to the park consists of a tower of similar design, and was built at the same period.

The lands of Grange occupy a position so far unique in the history of lands in the parish, since they seem at no time to have been within the jurisdiction of the barony of Calder: at the earliest period to which our information extends, Grange of Breich formed a part, by annexation, of the barony of North Berwick.

Thomas Hammiltoun of the Grange beside Levingstoun found the

laird of Calder surety that he should enter on 12th May 1562 to answer for abiding from a raid at Jedburgh. Six years later Gawin Hammiltoun is mentioned as occupying the lands of Grange of Breych in the parish of Calder when the property was conveyed by Dame Margaret Hume, Prioress of the convent of Northberuick, to Alexander Hume, son of Patrick Hume of Polwart, 28th January 1568. This Alexander Hume was Provost of Edinburgh at the time of his death, which took place on the 22nd July 1597. His latter will is dated at North Berwick 4th June preceding, and by it he appoints that his body be buried "without ony vane pompe or ceremonie," in his own parish kirk, "beside his bed-fellows." Sir John Home of Northberuick had a charter of the lands of Grange of Breich with mansion-house, in the parish of Calder, from James VI, dated at Grenewiche 7th June 1609. But it is the fortunes of the Hamiltons, who although at this time tenants only, ultimately became the heritable proprietors of the lands, that our history follows. In common with the rest of his surname Gawin Hammiltoun in Grange supported the cause of Queen Mary, and his name occurs somewhat frequently in the register of the Privy Council between the years 1578 and 1580, in connection with the proscription of the Hamiltons which characterised the period of Morton's resumed supremacy. Thus, on 4th June 1579, he is charged, in company with many other gentlemen of the name of Hamilton, to appear before the King under pain of rebellion, and on the 13th of the same month he was required to find caution that he should not intercommune nor comply with Lord John, nor Lord Claud Hamiltons, and that he would compear when called, on fifteen days' warning. Gawin Hammiltoun in the Grange was charged to appear with horse of the value of 40 lib. at the Wappenschaw held on the hill of Calder on the 4th August 1586; and he is still mentioned as occupier of the lands and mansion of Grange de Breiche in the parish of Calder, in a Crown charter of the same to Alexander Hume of Northberuick, 20th March 1588. He was succeeded by his son

JOHN HAMILTON of Grange, who obtained an award of the baron-bailie of Calder on 18th October 1587, that "Jon Bego in Howatstoun should content and pay to Jon Hamiltoun, son to Gawin Hamiltoun in ye Grange, ten merks money as for ye pryse of ane boll seid beir." His name

further occurs in the records of the same Court in the years 1592 and 1596. Thus:—

1592, *May 2*—The qlk day the baillie decerns John Hamilton in Grange to pay to James Aikman, ten punds vj sh. viij d. money in terme of law for a gray mair received be the said John fra him at Witsonday, 1590, and becaus this mater being denyed be the defender and referrit to the pursewer's probatioun, he previt the same sufficientlie as was cleirlye knawin to ye said baillie. And decernis the sd Jon to pay vj lib for expenses.

1596, *October 12*—Johne Hamilton in Grange, to obtien to James Hamilton, wricht, Alexander and Agnes Hamiltons acquittances of nyne bollis aittis deliverit be him to Henry Loch ye said Johnis tenand, of ye bairns part off geir and absolvis the said John of all furer claim yranent.

John Hamilton of Grange, is again mentioned in 1600, when a warlike demonstration was made against him by Patrick Hammiltoun of the Peel of Livingston. The violence was repeated in May 1602, upon which the matter was brought to the notice of the Privy Council by Sir John Home of North Berwick, who made his complaint as follows:—

Upon 27 September 1600, Patrik Hammiltoun of the Peill of Levingstoun came with many of his friends and servants to the pursuers lands of Grangebreich, and there sought Johnne Hammiltoun, pursuers tenant for his slaughter, but not finding him reft his best horse. Again upon the day following, being the Sabbath day, the said Patrik with sixteen others all armed, came to the said tenants house, broke up the doors, windows and easings thereof with great joists, pursued him and wounded sundry of his servants with long staves. They then trod down and destroyed all his corns with their horses, and spuilyied all the shorn corn. Again in May 1602 the said Patrik came to the pursuers lands of Grangebreich, and there broke the ground thereof with a plough and sowed the same with bear.

In the year 1621 John Hamiltoun of Grange of Breich, with consent of Alison Kinloch, his spouse, granted a charter of the one half of those lands in which he is infest, and of the other half thereof in which his said spouse is infest, in favour of John Hamiltoun, their son, and Catherine Mureheid his future spouse and their heirs reserving the liferent of the said subjects; dated at Grange of Breich 25th June 1621. Mr Patrick Kinloch, younger of Alderston, is amongst the witnesses, and James Hamiltoun, brother of the said John Hamiltoun, younger, is a witness to the seizin which followed on 25th July 1621. John Hamiltoun of Grange witnesses a transaction regarding the lands of Easter Colzium 5th March 1632; and in 1634 he

acted himself caution to the Session that John Hasty his servant should satisfy the Kirk. His latter will is dated 29th November 1639, whereby he nominates William Watsoune in Breich, his son-in-law, his only executor, and desires the residue of his effects to be divided amongst all his oysis [grand-children]. He died within the same year, 1639, and Alisone Kinloch his wife is stated in the will to be "deadlie seik at this present."

JOHN HAMILTON of Grange, the son of the foregoing, was an elder of the parish church of Calder in 1645, when he was directed to unite with the lairds of Linhouse and Alderston "to keip the thrie kirk duiris the nixt Sabbath and ilk preaching day yreftir, during the tyme of the remaining of the visitatioun that no straingers cum within the kirk." The visitation here referred to was a time of common sickness or pestilence, to guard against which none of the inhabitants were allowed to intercommune with those who lived in other parishes. On the proposal for the division of the parish into Mid and West Calder, John Hamilton of Grange appeared before a Committee of the Estates of parliament on 12th March 1647 to urge a protest, but his objections were overruled. He married in 1621, as we have already seen, Catherine Mureheid, who died in the month of December 1636, leaving three sons and two daughters, namely, John, who succeeded his father, James, Patrick, Alesoune and Katherine, all named in their mother's will, which is confirmed 21st March 1637. The laird of Grange died between 1660 and 1666.

JOHN HAMILTON of Grange, the next proprietor, was twice married, firstly to Agnes Patersone, daughter to the deceased William Patersone of Corsewoodburne and Christiana Hamilton his spouse, to whom he gave seisin of half his lands of Grange 27th April 1660. The marriage contract is dated 30th January 1660, at which time the bridegroom was "younger of Grange of Breich." His second wife was Margaret Ros, who survived him, and was mother of his son and successor, William Hamilton. On 14th February, 1666, John Hamilton of Grange, son of John Hamilton of the same was retoured heir of his grandfather, John Hamilton, of the lands of Grange of Breich. His name is also mentioned in transactions relating to the lands of Brotherton in the years 1673 and 1676.

WILLIAM HAMILTON of Grange had seisin of the lands on a precept of *Clare Constat* by Mr Hugh Dalrymple of North Berwick as lawful

and nearest heir of the deceased John Hamilton, his father, 17th April 1696; and upon the same date he granted a bond upon the lands (cor-



Fig. 19.—Signature of William Hamilton of Grange, 1696.

roborating a previous bond of the year 1690) to Mr James Whythead, writer in Edinburgh. He was twice married, firstly to Grizel Campbell, who was his wife in 1696; and secondly to Margaret Boswell of Pierscroft, daughter of

George Boswell, brother-german to David Boswell of Balmuto. The contract of marriage is dated 15th October 1698, the said laird of Balmuto being a witness; and in implement of which contract Hamilton gave seisin to his said future spouse of an annuity of 500 merks out of the lands of Grange of Breich presently possessed by him and by Margaret Ros, relict of John Hamilton of Grange of Breich, his mother. Margaret Boswell died in the month of June 1710, and her son, George Hamilton, was retoured her heir 15th February 1712. The same George, son of William Hamiltoun of Grange of Breich, was served heir of his grand-aunt, Elizabeth Bruce, and of his great grandfather John Bruce of Westerabden, in certain lands in Fifeshire, in the years 1712 and 1714.

Mr James Whythead next became seized of the lands upon a heritable bond for £4030 Scots by William Hamilton of Grange and Grizell Campbell his wife dated 17th April 1696. He is designed writer in Edinburgh in 1690, and at the date of the bond above-mentioned was Chamberlain to the Earl of Tweeddale. His wife was Grizell Drummond, but he died without issue before 1710. He was succeeded in these and other lands by his nieces, the daughters of his brother, Robert Whythead of Park, namely Lilius Whythead, wife of Alexander Heart in Linlithgow, and Margaret, her sister, whose husband was John King, one of the bailies of Glasgow. By these co-heiresses the property was disposed in 1713 to Mr Alexander Guthrie, W.S. This gentleman was admitted to the Society of Writers to the Signet 4th January 1698. He married in 1700 Jean Menteith, daughter of James Menteith of Auldcathie, and died on 30th September 1729. He again conveyed the lands of Grange to David Home, who was laird in 1726, and also at 28th May 1731, when he gave a bond for £100 sterling to John Aitkine, Under Secretary

for War for Scotland. He was deceased before 19th June 1734, when Alexander Home, writer in Edinburgh, gave in a renunciation of being his heir; and the estate a few years later was brought to judicial sale, when the Rev. John Wilkie became the purchaser for the sum of £8,473, 16s. 8d. Scots.

REV. JOHN WILKIE of Grange of Breich was descended of a family which, for upwards of four centuries, has been seated at Rathobyres in the parish of Ratho, from the main stem of which sprang Sir David Wilkie, R.A. Having graduated at Edinburgh in 1699, he was ordained minister of the neighbouring parish of Uphall in 1706, where for a period of more than fifty-five years he exercised his sacred calling. On 31st July 1740 there is a decreet of the Lords of Council and Session decerning to him all and haill the lands of Grange of Breich, with the teinds, houses, pertinents, etc., and he obtained a charter thereof from Sir John Dalrymple of North Berwick, Bart., the superior, dated 21st March 1741. He died at an advanced age on the 28th May 1762. A sermon on witchcraft, which he preached in Mid-Calder church on 14th January 1720, was published in that year. By his wife, Eupham Skein, he had an only son,

REV. CHARLES WILKIE of Grange, who succeeded to the property. He was seized of the lands upon a precept in his favour by Sir Hugh Dalrymple as heir of his father, dated at North Berwick House, 21st September 1762. Like his father, Mr Wilkie studied at Edinburgh, and embraced the ecclesiastical profession; he was licensed by the Presbytery of Dalkeith in 1733, and having been presented in the same year by Charles, Earl of Hopetoun, to the benefice of Ecclesmachan, rendered vacant by the death a short time previously of the Rev. Mr Baillie, he was shortly thereafter ordained to that parish, where he ministered for about thirty years, filling also the office of one of the trustees of the Moodie Mortification to Calder School. He married in 1756 Eupham Flint, who died childless, and at his own death without heirs, 5th November 1786, he bequeathed his landed property in the parish of Mid-Calder to his intimate friend, the Rev. Dr Thomas Hardy of Navity, one of the ministers of Edinburgh, charged with certain obligations to his widow and some distant relatives. We have already said that his memory has been perpetuated in the present name "Charlesfield," and his connection with the property was



also marked in the name of Wilkie's Wood, a plantation of about twenty-five acres in extent, which is shown in the Ordnance Survey as occupying the extreme western angle of this parish, but which was demolished in 1858.

THE VERY REV. THOMAS HARDY, D.D., one of the ministers of St Giles, Edinburgh, and Dean of the Chapel Royal, the next possessor of the property, was the only son of the Rev. Henry Hardy of Navity in the parish of Ballingry, minister of Culross, who was descended from a family long settled in the neighbourhood of Edinburgh, which had for two generations at least held the lands of Gogarmains, in the parish of Corstorphine. After passing the usual classical and theological course at the Edinburgh University, he was ordained in 1774, when twenty-five years of age, to the ministry of Ballingry in Fifeshire where he continued about ten years. In 1784 he was translated to the High Church of Edinburgh, and later was again removed to the New North Kirk or Haddo's-hole, which was one of the four parish churches into which St Giles' Cathedral was at that time divided. He was appointed in 1788 Regius Professor of Ecclesiastical History at Edinburgh, and in the same year the degree of D.D. was conferred upon him by that University. Both as a lecturer and as a preacher he acquired the highest popularity, and attained to a situation of considerable importance in the church, having been Moderator of Assembly in 1793. He published several sermons, a work entitled *The Patriot: The Principles of Moderation*, etc, and was the composer of the 27th and 28th Paraphrases, besides several hymns. He died at his town residence, which is still standing, at the corner of Richmond Place and Hill Place, Edinburgh, on the 21st of November 1798, in the fifty-first year of his age; his portrait and biography appear in Kay's collection of portraits of celebrities of the Scottish capital. Dr Hardy was seized of the lands of Grange of Breich, and also those of "Howatstone *alias* Charlesfield" on a charter of resignation by Sir William A. Cunynghame of Livingston, dated 3rd January 1794. Shortly after his acquisition of the estate, he erected the present mansion-house as a country residence for his family, his property of Navity House, which was across the Forth, being too inconveniently situated for him, owing to his multifarious engagements in the city. His wife was Agnes Young, daughter of the Rev. William Young, minister of the united parishes of Hutton and Corrie in Annan-

dale, and sister of Alexander Young of Harburn, W.S., an extensive land-owner in this and the neighbouring parish. She was married to Dr Hardy in 1780, and after her husband's death lived with her family for many years at Charlesfield, where she died very suddenly whilst walking in the avenue on the 4th of June 1812. They had a numerous family. Henry, the eldest son, a student for the bar, predeceased his mother, and the third son, the Rev. Charles Wilkie Hardy, after completing his academic career at Edinburgh, was appointed minister of Dunning, in Perthshire, in 1813, but died unmarried in less than a year after his ordination. Captain William, the second son, and Dr Thomas, the youngest, both survived to become lairds of Charlesfield; of the daughters, Sophia, the youngest, was married first to Gilbert Bertram, merchant at Leith, and secondly to Robert Allan, F.R.S., Professor of Surgery at Edinburgh, author of *Allan's Surgery* and other works.

CAPT. WILLIAM HARDY of Charlesfield, an officer in the military service of the East India Company on the Madras Establishment, was the second son of the last mentioned, and was born in the year 1785. He rose to distinction in the Hon. Company's service, taking an active share in the operations for the suppression of the rebellion in Ceylon in 1818, and acting for some time previous to his death as Resident of Tanjore. He never returned to his native country, but died of fever at Seringapatam in the year 1824, when the succession passed to his younger brother.

THOMAS HARDY of Charlesfield, F.R.C.S., was seized of the lands of Howatstone, on a precept of *Clare Constat* in his favour by Sir William A. Cunynghame of Livingston, as heir of his brother Capt. William Hardy, in August 1825; and of the lands of Grange of Breich upon a charter by Sir Hew Dalrymple-Hamilton of North Berwick, dated 13th March 1826. This proprietor was at that time a surgeon in private practice in Edinburgh, but for many years before his death he lived with his family for the greater part of each year at Charlesfield House. He married, in 1821, Robina Forrester, daughter of Robert Forrester, Treasurer of the Bank of Scotland, and died at his town house in Duke Street, Edinburgh, 4th March 1836. His eldest son, the Rev. Thomas Hardy, sometime of Charlesfield, is the present minister of Fowlis Wester, Perthshire; and of

his other children mention may be made of the late Miss Robina Hardy of Edinburgh, author of *Jock Halliday* and numerous other works of fiction, who died 12th August 1891.

For several years after 1836 Charlesfield House became the residence of Thomas Robertson-Chaplin of Colliston, a well known Edinburgh citizen, under lease from the testamentary trustees of the late Mr Hardy ; and in 1846 the estate passed by purchase into the possession of Henry Raeburn of Howden.

Mr Raeburn was the only surviving son of Sir Henry Raeburn, the distinguished portrait painter of the early part of the present century. Having married Charlotte, daughter and eventual heiress of Mrs Elizabeth White of Howden, he ultimately succeeded with his wife to that property, which continued to be his residence for many years after his acquisition of Charlesfield. He removed hither in the year 1860, and devoted much care and large sums of money to the improvement of the estate, until his death, which occurred at Charlesfield House, 23rd July 1863. His family consisted of three sons and four daughters, namely, Henry, resident in New Zealand, who died without descendants ; John Peter of Charlesfield, who died unmarried, 1872 ; Logan White Raeburn of Charlesfield, married Katherine Bruce Fernie of Dauntsey House, Wilts, but died also without surviving issue in 1877 ; Anne of Charlesfield, married William Patrick Andrew, a medical officer in the service of the East India Company, who received the honour of knighthood and the decoration of Companion of the Indian Empire 20th January 1882, and died in 1887 leaving descendants ; Miss Charlotte Raeburn ; Elizabeth Hay Raeburn, married John Fraser, M.D., surgeon, Hon. East India Company ; and Miss Caroline Raeburn. Lady Andrew of Charlesfield died at Hastings, 24th July 1893.

#### HOWATSTON.

The lands in this parish attached to the estate are a portion of the farm of Grange and the policy lands of Howatston. The former, as we have seen, were anciently included in the barony of North Berwick, but the latter, upon which the modern mansion-house is built, has in all historic times been within the jurisdiction of the barony of Calder. Thus,

on 1st October 1484, there is a charter by Gawin of Levinstoun of the lands of Howatstoun lyand in ye barone of Caldor in favour of Mergrete Hay, spouse of John of Glendony. Six years later an action was raised in the Court of Session by John of Glendovyn and Mergrete Hay his spouse against Gawine Levinstoun of yt ilke for wrangwis vexacioun and distrubling thame in ye peaceable possessioun of ye landis of Howatstoun pertening to ye said Mergrete who enjoyed the same be virtue of ane charter and seisin maid to hir be umquhile John of Levinstoun. The lords on 11th March 1490 ordain the said lands to be broikit and manurit be ye said Mergrete and hir spous for all ye dais of hir lif. But it appears that the laird of Livingston did not give up his pretensions in consequence of this decret, and the tenants of the property next claimed the protection of the Lords of Council against a double rent exacted from them. On 5th July 1492 James Bego, Thomas Loch, John Zoung and Janet Patersone, tenants of the lands of Howatstoun in the barony of Calder, raised an action against Johne of Glendony and Mergrete Hay his wife, and against Henry Levinstoun, son and apparent heir of Gawin of Levinstoun of yt ilke, for taking dowble malez of the said landis, and that Glendony had wrangwis awaytuke and withhalden fra the forsaid tenents five horses and four hed of nolt. The matter is continued (*i.e.* postponed) but the lords in the meantime charge the parties to "restore and deliuer agane ye saidis guidis to ye said pure tenentis and yt thai vex not ye saidis tenentis in ye meyntyme quhill ye deciding of the said mater."

There are several instances in the parish of lands being cultivated for generations, and even for centuries, by members of the same family of tenants. John Bego in Howatstoun, who probably was a descendant of the above-mentioned James, died in the month of May 1574, leaving by Agnes Balgirvir, his relict spouse, John, Marioun, Helen, Bessie, Thomas, and Margaret Begos, his children, all named in his will, which is confirmed 4th February 1575. Johnne Bego is mentioned as one of the four tenants in Howatstoun in 1586, and John was still tenant in 1626. George Bewgo in Houatstone died in the month of December 1655; and it is said that from this race descends Bewgo, the friend of Burns, and an engraver of some repute at the end of last century. Thomas Loch likewise appears in the plaint above referred to in 1492; William Loche was tenant in

1586; Henry Loch in 1590; and on 9th October 1698, Hendry Loch in Howitstoun was ordained an elder of Mid-Calder parish church.

The tenants in 1586 were Thomas Levingstoun, John Bego, Johnne Walker and William Loche, who are all bound to appear in arms to serve the laird of Calder in all oistis and raids whenever they shall be lawfully charged thereto. John Walker is still mentioned in 1590 and 1605, and in 1630 he satisfies the kirk for breach of the Sabbath. George Walker in Howitstoun, in 1654, was "too much addicted to excessive drunkenness." Thomas Levingstoun in Howatstoun appears in a list of occupiers of lands within the barony of Calder in 1590; John Livingston was tenant in 1621; Thomas Livingston, there, was a kirk elder at 3rd December 1691, when he was due to the Session six bolls of meal. They agreed to accept his bond for the same, and "would not otherwise more strictly deal with him, he being straitened through the calamities of the late tymes, and exposed to sufferings for his principles." Thomas Nimmo in Houatstoun was rebuked, 12th May 1695, for swearing, drunkenness, and the want of family worship in his household, all of which he acknowledged, and promised through the Lord's strength to amend his ways. Various other notices of the early tenants of Howatston appear in the transactions of the Barony Court.

1585, *May 4*—Decernis Jon bego in Houatstoun to keip guid nychtborheid in pasturing his gudis with Thomas Lewingstoun, under the penes conteint in ye acts and statuts.

1586, *April 19*—The qlk day the baillie decernis Thomas Lewingstoun in Howatstoun, to keip guid nychtborheid with Jon bego thair, and to that effect to procure a Hird with him and to pay ye half of his hyr to keip ye gudds, etc.

1586, *October 20*—The qlk day the baillie decernis Henry Loch in Howatstoun, to deliuer to James Steinsoun ane sword quhilk the said James gave to him in keiping in Gawesyde at his mariage thair at midsomer last.

1594, *February 18*—The baillie, finding that be contract and appointment maid betuix Agnes Bagarvy and Jon bego in Howatstoun, her sone, he is obleist to give hir a sixth part of all cornis growand upon thair rume of Howatstoun, she furnissand the saxt part of ye rent and payand to ye persone ye saxt part of ye teind—decernis him to observe the said contract, which is of date ye xvij of November 1581, for all ye dayis of hir lifetyme.

1600, *March 3*—Decerns Henrie Loch in Howitstoun, to pay to Jas Lewingston, sone to Thomas Lewingston, sextein merkis money.

On 14th June 1623 John Kinloch, brother of Mr Patrick Kinloch of Aldinstoun, had a charter from John, Lord Torphichen, of an annual rent of £40 out of the lands of Howatston, in the barony of Calder, in which annual rent he was succeeded by his brother above-named in the year 1625. There is also a charter by the same Lord Torphichen in favour of Mr William Sandilands, his brother-german, and Grissell Bannatyne, his spouse, of that half of the lands of Howatston presently occupied by John Livingston and John Bewgo, under reversion of the sum of 4000 merks, at Calder 26th July 1626; this was however renounced by the said spouses in November 1631, the transaction taking place "in the said nobil Lord's chalmer in Edinburgh, on the south side of the gaitt fornent the Trone, in presence of Mr Harie Sandilands brother to the said Lord, and James Sandilands of Murehousdykis" The lands of Howatston were next disposed by his lordship to Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderston, advocate, whose son, James Kinloch of Alderston, had seisin in 1640, and they were for many years attached to the estate of Alderston. Before the close of the 17th century, however, the property came back to Lord Torphichen, and the lands of Howatstounes are named amongst others in the barony of Calder which bore the provision of an annual rent of 4000 merks to Christian Primrose, spouse of Walter, the 6th Lord, conform to her contract of marriage, 5th March 1692. Then on 16th December 1701 there is a contract of alienation of the lands (as presently possessed by Henry and John Loch and others) by James, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Dame Christian Primrose, his mother, in favour of Mr John Mitchell of Alderston, for whom they were disjoined from the barony of Calder and united to that of Alderston by charter under the Great Seal 9th February 1709. By this proprietor the lands were again conveyed to Mr Alexander Dalgleish, minister of Linlithgow from 1699 until his death, 30th May 1726. This clergyman, by his wife Susanna, daughter of Duncan Campbell of Auchlyne (whom he married 27th September 1702) had, besides other children, a son, Mr Robert, who succeeded him in the benefice, and a daughter, Jean, married to Mr Robert Spears, A.M., minister of the second charge of Linlithgow for about fifteen years previous to 1743, and thereafter of Burntisland. By him and by Jean Dalgleish his wife, the

T

lands of Howatston were disposed to Mr Charles Wilkie of Grange, minister of Ecclesmachan, and they were then united with his lands of Grange in one estate, afterwards called Charlesfield. This disposition in favour of Mr Wilkie is dated at Burntisland 5th November 1750, and the marches of the property are thus described—all and whole the lands of Howatston bounded between the water of Almond on the north, the water of Killing and the lands of Nether Alderston on the south, the lands of Grange and Grangeside on the west, and the joining together of the two waters on the east parts, lying within the barony of Alderstoun, parish of Mid-Calder and shire of Edinburgh, with liberty of casting peats and pasturing on the moss of Brastoun.

The houses of Grange and Hewistoun are marked on Blaeu's atlas, published in 1662.

#### COLZIUM.

The estate of Colzium, situated in the southern or upper portion of the parish, extends to some 2,700 acres, and now embraces the lands of Easter and Wester Colzium and those of Wester Cairns. The house occupies a commanding position, and is a substantial structure, the walls presenting the appearance of considerable antiquity, but we are without precise information in regard to the period of its erection. It is situated upon the lands of Easter Colzium, at a height of fully 1000 feet above sea-level. In the year 1609, the lands of Easter Colzium, with tower and fortalice, are mentioned in the records. It is impossible, however, that the present house should be of that age, nor can it in any sense be described as a tower or fortress; we must therefore suppose that it occupies the position of an older and fortified erection. The house of Colyam is likewise marked in Blaeu's map of the district in 1662, but this also must refer to an earlier structure. The present mansion is an example of the T plan, and is of moderate dimensions. Besides the high wing in the centre there are two low wings at the back, the roofs of which are just visible in our illustration above the courtyard wall; the front elevation faces the south, and presents no feature calling for special remark. The steading of Wester Colzium is now in ruins.

A picturesque and secluded nook on the confines of the estate,

near to the Crosswood burn, is traditionally pointed out as one of the rendezvous of the Covenanters in Charles II.'s time, and a projecting piece of rock there named Wolf-field Craig is still sometimes called "The Pulpit." The history of the lands has a chequered aspect exhibiting a

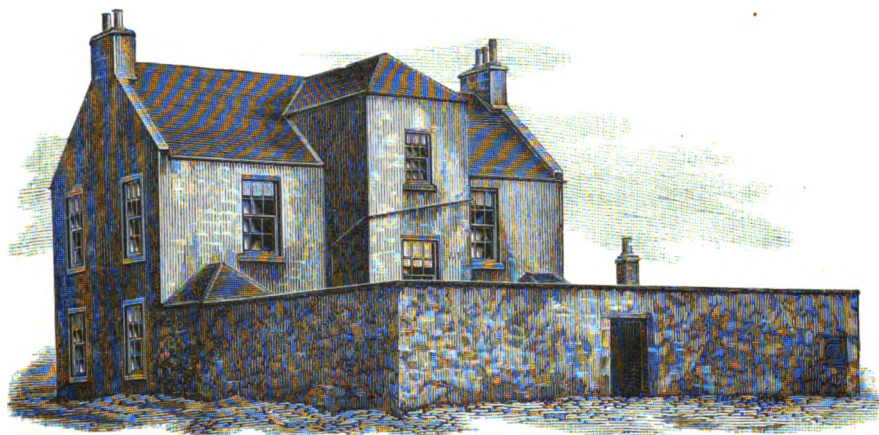


Fig. 20.—View of Colzium House from N.

series of changes in proprietorship, there being no single family which even for two complete generations could claim to be "of Colzium." We commence our account with

MARTYNE KER of Eister Colzame who was charged to attend wappinshaw displays, armed and on horseback, in 1586. On 20 May 1595, he was decerned to pay xxxviiij s. which was owing by him to the late William Reid the tyme of his deceis, to Jonet Reid as sister and narrest off kin to the creditor. His name occurs also in connection with a cattle raid committed by the followers of Sir Walter Scott of Branxholm on 25th June 1598, when they reft from Sir James Sandilands and his tenents twenty-four oxen. Archibald Elliot of Mirrieneis, at the command of the laird of Branxholm, re-delivered seven of the said oxen to Mertein Ker and Williame Welshe. On 7th June 1595, Martin Ker had a disposition of the lands of Easter Colzium from James Sandilands of Calder, with consent of his curators; and his daughter Agnes married David Wilson in Bonnyngton. The marriage contract is dated 24th October



1609, in implement of which the said David and Agnes were infest in the lands of Easter Colzeam, with houses, tower and fortalice, in the barony of Calder. This was renunciated by David Wilson in favour of Martyne Ker, his father-in-law, 5th March 1632, at which time the latter is designated Mairteine Ker in Cammalty. And by Martyne the lands were again renounced in favour of John, Lord Torphichen at Calder, 1st June 1634. Some twenty years later, Walter, Lord Torphichen, grants a charter of the steading, rounge and lands of Easter Colzeam to William Listoun, second lawful son to Patrick Listoun in Over Newlistoun, but with declaration anent that part of the lands of Colzeam called Breadbent, pertaining to the lands of Colzeam in commonty.

WILLIAM LISTOUN of Easter Colzium was twice married; firstly to Helen Vernour, eldest daughter of Gawin Vernour in Dedridge, to whom he gave seisin of the half of his roun and lands of Easter Colzeam in contemplation of the marriage to be solemnised between them, 10th June 1658. Patrick Listoun, his father, and William Listoun, in Muirend, his uncle, are witnesses. His name occurs again at 14th November 1665, when he granted an annual rent of £40 out of his lands of Easter Colzeame to John Aikman, elder, in Woodhouse, and John, his son, in liferent and fee; and this charge was redeemed by Jean Cameron, second spouse of William Listoun of Easter Colziam, in favour of herself, and of Archibald Listoun, her only son, 12th August 1692. Mr John Cameron, minister at Kincardine, is a witness to the transaction. William Listoun took part on the covenanting side at the battle on Pentland Hills in 1666, in consequence of which he was proclaimed a rebel, and excepted by name out of the King's pardon and indemnity, 1st October 1667. As he could not be apprehended, he was sentenced to death in absence, but succeeded in evading his persecutors until after the revolution in 1690, when his forfeiture was rescinded. He was for several years thereafter an elder of Mid-Calder church, and was a very regular attendant in the Session until his death, which occurred in August 1698.

JOHN LISTOUN, the elder son of the foregoing, and the child of his first wife, Helen Vernour, was seized of the lands on a precept of *Clare Constat* to him as lawful and nearest heir of his said father by James, Lord Torphichen, dated at the castle of Calder, 10th March 1701. An

annual rent effeiring to the principal sum of 1000 merks chargeable on the lands was held by Archibald Listoun, his half-brother, but was renounced by him in favour of John Listoun of Easter Colzium, 29th August 1711. This laird married Janet Lawson of the family of Lawson of Cairnmuir, and had two sons, James, maltman in Strathaven, and William. He died previous to 4th February 1737, when James Listoun, the elder son, was retoured heir-general, and his widow was at that time married again to Matthew Brown. On 28th November 1723 John Listoun, designed "in Three Stones," disposed his lands of Coalzium with the teinds thereof in favour of Alexander Aikman of Nether Howden, who held the property for rather more than ten years. By him the lands of Easter Colzium, with the two commonties of Broadbent and Birkinhill, were again conveyed to John Lawson of Cairnmuir, conform to a minute of agreement thereanent 22nd June 1734.

WALTER MITCHELL of Listonshiells is the next proprietor mentioned. He was the eldest son of Mr John Mitchell of Alderston, an extensive landowner in the parish, and he died previous to 21st March 1740, when there is a precept from Chancery in favour of William Mitchell, chirurgion-apothecary and convener of the Trades of Edinburgh, as heir of his brother Walter, of the lands of Listonschiells, Easter Colzium and Bents. By William Mitchell the lands were disposed on 31st August 1743 to

GEORGE DICK, writer in Mid-Calder, thereafter of Greenbank, to whom they were confirmed by Crown charter of date 12th February 1748. Very shortly thereafter Mr Dick conveyed these and other lands in the parish to his elder son, Captain George Dick of the Marines, from whom they came into the possession of

ALEXANDER HEPBURN, merchant in Edinburgh. This laird obtained a charter of resignation under the Great Seal of the lands of Easter Colzeum, with manor place, in the parish of Mid-Calder, in favour of himself and Margaret Geddes his wife, in conjunct fee 23rd February 1763; and two years later he again conveyed the estate to Alexander Geddes, son of Robert Geddes, merchant, Maryland, by disposition dated 20th March 1765.

ALEXANDER GEDDES of Colzium married Jean Bull, relict of Hugh M'Donald, Ensign E. I. Co., to whom he gave seisin of the lands in 1784,

and by whom he had a son, Alexander, a lieutenant in the 31st Regiment of Foot. He died in the year 1801, and the lands were again sold to

ALEXANDER GRANT, W.S., who obtained a charter of the same under the Great Seal, dated 5th July 1804. This proprietor was a son of Patrick Grant of Nevie, and after serving his apprenticeship to Mr Isaac Grant, W.S., of Nether Alderston, he was admitted a writer to the Signet on 28th June 1787. He died 4th July 1808, and there is a disposition of Easter Colzium with the Commonties of Braidbent and Birkinhill belonging thereto by Peter Grant, in the shipping service of the East India Company, with consent of the trustees of the late Alexander Grant, W.S., in favour of Mr Michael Linning of Cumberhead, Clerk to the Signet, dated 21st December 1810. Of

MICHAEL LINNING, W.S., of Colzium, we have already had occasion to speak (page 114); he subsequently became possessed of the lands of East Cairns and Baadpark, and died on 17th February 1838, after which his landed property in this parish was conveyed by his trustees to Robert Downie of Appin.

The lands of Easter Colzium were next acquired by the Edinburgh Water Company, an undertaking formed for the construction and maintenance of the Harperrig compensation reservoir, and in whose favour there is a conveyance of this property by the Trustees of Robert Downie of Appin, and by John Learmonth of Dean, dated 4th November 1844. In October 1849, the room and lands of Easter Colzium with the teinds thereof and the two commonties of Braidbent and Birkenhill are again disposed and assigned by the above named Company to James Hunter of the Haugh, Newliston, whose seisin took place on 27th November in that year; and the neighbouring farms of Wester Colzium and Wester Cairns were subsequently acquired by Mr Hunter and have since been attached to this estate. This laird was succeeded by his son William Bertram Hunter, who, on 7th November 1884, disposed the united property of Colzium, with manor place, &c., in the parish of Mid-Calder, to the late George Watson, then residing at Park House, Grange, Edinburgh. Mr Watson was in turn succeeded, in the year 1888, by his nephew, John Anderson of Colzium, the present proprietor.

The lands of Wester Colzium and Wester Cairns were anciently held by the Tennents of Cairns, and the history of their proprietors previous to the year 1700 is the same as that of Easter Cairns. The laird of Wester Colzian was charged to appear and give evidence before the Privy Council in regard to a conventicle held on the Cairn hills in July 1684; and in a list of persons whom General Dalzell is recommended to arrest in connection with the affair—"convening a sufficient number of His Majesty's forces" to that effect—appears the name of David Syres, servant to John Hamilton, tenant in Wester Collon. At the same time, Andrew Ker, servant to David Ker, tenant in Wester Cairne, having seen several persons in arms pass to the said conventicle, yet neglected to give "tymeous informatioun" with a view to their arrest, is ordered to be apprehended and brought in to the Tolbuith of Edinburgh.

Jonet Alexander died on the 12th April 1584; she was first the wife of George Tennent in West Colzeane, and afterwards of John Gibsoun in Wester Cairnes, and she nominates her son, George Tennent, as executor and intromitter. George Tennent in Wester Cairnis died 7th May 1608, leaving one half of his effects to Bessie Patersone, his relict spouse, and the other half to sundry persons. James Tennent, elder of Greenburne, is executor, and John Lowry in Dyk, and Peter Aikman in Mortoun are overseers. Bessie Aikman, spouse of David Ker in West Cairnes, died in November 1665, mentioning in her will David, John, James, Samuel, Andrew, Jean, and Helen Kers, her children.

On 29th July 1708 the lands of Wester Colzium and Wester Cairns were confirmed by Lord Torphichen to Mr John Mitchell of Alderstoun, for whom they were disjoined from the barony of Calder and annexed to that of Alderstoun by Crown charter dated 9th February 1709. He died in July 1730, and these lands were conveyed by his trustees to George Dick, writer in Mid-Calder, who paid for West Colzium and West Cairns the sum of £11,960 Scots, including annual rent from Candlemas 1734 to Whitsunday 1736. The same gentleman, as we have already seen, afterwards acquired Easter Colzium, so that the three lands, although they were destined to be again divided, were at this period associated in one estate as at present. In 1755, Captain George Dick of Greenbank gave an annuity of £40 sterling out of the lands of West Colzium and West Cairns to

Rosamond Pearson, his affianced wife ; and the same lands were confirmed under the Great Seal to William Dick of Greenbank, 2nd June 1791. William Dick died in the following year, and the property was, on 15th November 1793, conveyed by his trustees to Captain John Inglis of Auchindinny. This proprietor was a naval commander, and attained to the rank of vice-admiral. He was succeeded by his son, John Inglis of Auchindinny, advocate, who was seized on 31st August 1813. This Mr Inglis again conveyed the lands, on 1st December 1818, to the Rev. Hugh Laird, D.D., minister of Portmoak, who at the same time acquired the neighbouring property of Easter Cairns and Baadpark. The latter he sold in 1827 to Mr Michael Linning, W.S., of Easter Colzium, but he continued proprietor of West Colzium and West Cairns until his death, which occurred on 28th August 1849, in his eighty-sixth year. In West Cairns and West Colzium he was ultimately succeeded by his second son, Hugh Laird, a writer in Kinross, and procurator-fiscal for that county, by whom the lands were again conveyed to James Hunter of East Colzium, to which estate they have since been attached.

#### GREENBANK.

A few roods south of the village, and between the roadway and Calder wood, formerly stood the house of Greenbank, which was erected by Superintendent Spottiswood, the first Reformed minister of Calder, and was the birthplace, in 1565, of his son and successor in the charge, who subsequently became Archbishop of St Andrews. The property was acquired by Lord Torphichen at the close of last century, and the house, which had become very dilapidated, has since been demolished ; it contained a portrait of the Superintendent. After the promotion of the younger Mr Spottiswood to the Archbishopric of Glasgow, in 1603, Greenbank House continued for about forty years the parsonage of the parish clergy, and when they removed to the old manse at Sandilands, the superiority of this property still belonged to the church. When no longer the residence of the minister, Greenbank became for a period of about one hundred and fifty years, the abode of the village lawyer. It was first held by the family of Johnstone, the members of which were

successively writers and notaries in Mid-Calder, Jhone Jhonstoun, notary publict, acting as an elder of the parish in 1607. Johne Johnestoun, macer, is designated constable of the parrochine of Calder in an order to him to provide certain horses for the use of His Majesty's chariot passing through this district on the occasion of his progress through Scotland, in the year 1617.

There are entries in the Presbytery and other records alluding to the erection of the manse of Calder in 1645, and it seems that the property of Greenbank was at this time disposed by Mr Kennedy, the minister, to Samuel Johnstone, notary in Calder. The latter had a seat in the parish church in 1653, and his name occurs in connection with various legal transactions in the district about the same period—*e.g.*, he acts in relation to the testament of John Anderson in Skevo, recorded 22nd July 1661. He had several children, viz., Walter, baptized 28 April 1653; Jeane, b. 1645; Katrine, b. 1658; and Anna, b. 1668. Walter Johnstone, notary, and Bethea Fergusone, his spouse, were next seized of the lands upon a charter by Mr Norman M'Kenzie, rector of Calder, dated 22nd August 1676, on which occasion the property is described as all and whole that mansion-house in Calder, built by the late Mr John Spotswood, grandfather of the late Sir John Spotswood of Dairsie, Knight, and by the late John, Archbishop of St Andrews, his father, with a piece of bank, etc., and two acres of arable land, in the barony of Calder Comitis. Walter Johnstone filled the office of Session-clerk to the Presbyterian congregation, both at their temporary meeting-place during the occupation of the parish church by the Episcopal Incumbents, and also at the church. He died in 1690 or 1691, and on 13th June 1704, Jean, Anne, Margaret, and Bethia Johnstones, his daughters, had a precept of *Clare Constat* from Mr John Lookup, minister at the church of Calder, as heirs of their said father. These four daughters were all married: Jean, the eldest, to William Wardrop, writer in Mid-Calder; Anne, to Robert Anderson, merchant in Duns; Margaret, to Mr John Sandilands, minister at Dolphington; and Bethia, to Thomas Sandilands, writer in Mid-Calder, who died in August 1716. By these co-heiresses the property was conveyed to William Elphinston, after whose death it was disposed by John Dewar, merchant, and late bailie of

Edinburgh, to George Dick, writer in Mid-Calder, 8th December 1744. The disposition describes the lands, and embraces the houses lately built thereon by the deceased Captain Elphinston, with barns, stables, piece of brae, and craig adjacent, with two arable acres towards the south and west of the old mansion-house; also the seat in Mid-Calder church pertaining to the said lands.

George Dick of Greenbank, who thus became proprietor, was only son of John Dick, merchant in Mid-Calder, and Elizabeth Jamisone, his wife. His name occurs very frequently in the records in connection with the exercise of his profession between the years 1723 and 1750. He became possessed of many other lands in the parish, including various subjects in the village, the lands of Easter Colzium (on disposition by William Mitchell, chirurgion, of date 31st August 1743), West Cairns, West Colzium, and others, which were confirmed to him by a charter under the Great Seal, 12th February 1748, in which it is narrated that the property of Greenbank is held of the rector of Calder, and his successors in office. George Dick married in the month of April 1713, Margaret, daughter of the deceased John Sandilands of Braidshaw, with whom he had two sons, namely, George, born 25 May 1715; and William, born 2nd February 1726. He was succeeded by the elder son, Captain George Dick, of General Cornwalls' regiment of Marines, who in 1751 acquired also the lands of Easter Murieston from Matthew Paterson of Murieston, a merchant in Linlithgow. This proprietor married (contract dated 6th March 1754), Rosamond Pearson, fourth daughter of Rodger Pearson, in the county of Northumberland, and widow of David Clifton, accountant of Excise, Edinburgh; but he died apparently without issue, about 30 Nov. 1778. Captain Dick was in turn succeeded in these various lands by his brother, William Dick of Greenbank, officer of Excise at Dumbarton, who had a precept of *Clare Constat* as heir of his said brother from James, Lord Torphichen, on 8th May 1782, and was retoured heir-general of the late George Dick, writer in Mid-Calder, his father, on 7th August in the same year. William died in 1792, leaving a son, George, officer of Excise at Elie; and the estates were alienated in the following year, Greenbank to Lord Torphichen, Easter Murieston to Henry Jamieson, banker in Edinburgh, and West Colzium and West Cairns to Captain John Inglis, R.N., of Auchindinny.

## HARPERRIG.

A portion at least of these lands formed part in ancient times of the patrimony of the Knights Templars, and of their successors the Knights of St John. At the period of the Reformation, Thomas Cant obtained the property from the baron of Calder. His son, also Thomas Cant of Harperrig, was laird in 1586, and at 1st May 1590, when Thos. Ramage was decerned to pay and deliver to Thomas Cant of Harperrig, four hoggis and ane zew at xxiiij d. ye piece overheid quhilk war tint to ye said Thomas Cant in ye said Thomas Ramage's default. This laird was succeeded by his nephew, John Cant, in 1602, who had seisin on a precept of *Clare Constat* by James Sandilands of Calder, as heir of the deceast Thomas Cant of Herperig, his grandfather. On 16th March in the last-mentioned year, John Cant gives seisin of the temple lands of Herperig called Templehill to Robert Hamilton of Bathgate, on which occasion they are described as being bounded by the Water of Lethensem on the north, by the Meredene burn on the east, and on the west by the Tempildyck, which extends from the south to the foresaid Water of Lethensem. Three years later, Hamilton of Bathgate resigned the lands in favour of Mr Laurence Scot, writer, to whom they were confirmed by James, lord of Torphichin, with consent of James Tennent of Lynhous, and Mr Robert Williamessoun of Murreistoun, 30th May 1605, when it is mentioned that the lands were occupied by the late Hugo Dowglas, Robert Lawder, Wm. Deware of that Ilk, James Guidled, and Wm. Haswall. Mr Laurence is designed "of Bavillaw," and was an extensive proprietor of lands in neighbouring parishes; his name occurs frequently in records relating to Calder church between 1633 and 1653, and one of his daughters, Agnes Scot, married Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderston in 1622. Mr Lawrence Scot of Bavillaw died in November 1669, mention being made in his will of Katherine Binning, his relict spouse, Mr Lawrence, his eldest son, William, Katherine, Barbara, Agnes, Cristian, and Janet, his younger children; Mr James Binning, advocate, is cautioner. Mr Lawrence Scot, the elder son, was served heir of his father of the lands of Harperrig,



in the barony of Calder, and of the temple lands of the same, called Tempillhill, in the regality of Torphichen, 13th May 1670. He died previous to 9th October 1679, when there is a charter under the Great Seal to William Scot of Bavillaw erecting many lands in neighbouring parishes into the free barony of Bavillaw. William died in the month of March 1690, and was succeeded by Charles Scot of Bavillaw, his brother-german.

We next find the lands of Harperrig in the possession of Robert Thomson, Sheriff-Clerk depute for the county of Edinburgh. He had two sons, who each in turn became proprietors of Harperrig, as well as Auchinoon and other lands in the locality. The elder son was Dr Robert Thomson, a physician in Edinburgh, who granted an annuity of £1000 Scots out of the estate to Mistress Mary Dickson, his wife, daughter of Sir Robert Dickson of Innerask, baronet, conform to their marriage contract, which is dated 29th April 1717. Dr Thomson died within a few months, and his widow married secondly to Adam Durham of Luffness. He was succeeded in these lands by his brother, Alexander Thomson, a merchant and burgess of Edinburgh, who obtained a charter under the Great Seal of that part of the barony of Calder called Harperrig, and the temple lands of the same or Templehill in the regality of Torphichen, also certain parts of the lands and barony of Kirknewton, dated at Edinburgh, 13th February 1721. This laird died before 1751, when Matthew Thomson of Harperrig grants an annual rent furth of the lands to Dr George Young, physician in Edinburgh, and Thomas Young, surgeon there, his son.

The property now belongs to the Earl of Morton; it has long been tenanted—for a period of 200 years, it is said—by members of the family of Gray. The name is an old one in the parish, the Grays being first settled at the Bridgend of Calder. Mr John Gray and Eupham Mosman his spouse, had a charter of lands and houses at ye end of the brig of Calder, 6th September 1563. He left a son, Alexander Gray, whose name appears amongst the vassals of the barony in 1586, and a daughter, Katherine; Alexander was deceased in 1602, when Rachael Gray, his daughter, had seisin of "that piece of land occupied by her father and grandfather, lying beside the Bridgend of Calder, together with the meadow

or brae at the south side of the house, and right of pasturage of four beasts with the cows of the village of Calder, in the mains thereof." Robert Gray is one of the witnesses to the baptism of Andrew Godskirk's child in Baadpark, 3rd March 1605; and in 1664, John Gray was ordained an elder of the parish church. James Gray was tenant in Harperrig in 1775.



Fig. 21.—View of Howden House from S.

#### HOWDEN.

Howden House is picturesquely situated in a well-wooded park which rises gently from the north bank of the Almond. It is a substantial rectangular structure of liberal dimensions, with a large wing at either end, evidently added at a period subsequent to the erection of the main part of the house, the walls dividing them therefrom being not far short of 9 feet in thickness. No date appears on any portion of the building, but it seems probable that the original structure may have been erected about the commencement of last century; and the whole has been restored by the present proprietor, with extensive interior alterations, during the past few years. The lands of Howden, "with the principal house, office houses, etc.," are mentioned in 1753; and on 19th October 1796, as our parish records inform us, Dr James Gregory, physician in Edinburgh, and Isabella, second daughter of Donald Macleod of Geanies

were married at Houdoun House by the Rev. John Sommers, minister of Mid-Calder.

The name is of very old application to the lands, and in ancient times designated not only the present estate of Howden, but a portion also of lands of the Craigs, with a pendicle south of the Almond, the connection with which still survives in the names of Howden Toll Bar and Howden Smithy. Hence it is that what we now know as Howden is denominated in old charters and writs Wester or Over Howden, Nether Howden being the name formerly applied to the lower portions of the lands and those which have since become incorporated in Lord Torphichen's estate of Calder. The small estate of Howden Park, extending to some 50 acres, is the property of Mr Robert Auld, in whose family it is understood to have descended for several generations.

In the year 1510, Robert Dalgles (Douglas) in Howdane produced the King's remission for resetting, supplying and intercommuning with John Davidson, rebel. Robert Douglas in Howdoun is likewise a witness, in company with Robert Douglas of Pumfrastoun and others, to a charter of the lands of Colzium dated 10th October 1539. Johnne Dowglas in Howden is next mentioned at 19th March 1566, when, with many others in the barony of Calder, he was cited to appear before the King and Quenis Majesteis to answer to sic thingis as salbe laid to their charge touching the murder of David Riccio. Whether the same individual we know not, but there was a John Douglas, "called of Howden," who was deceased in 1607, when his brother Alexander was retoured his heir, and concerning whom it is said that he served Queen Mary with reputation in her wars in Ireland. The following letter of the Council was addressed to the Privy Council of Ireland in favour of the above-named Alexander, in 1609:

Edinburgh, 28th September 1609.—After oure very humble commendationis to your goode Lordshipis—The beirar heirof, Alexander Douglas, lauchfull bruther and air of umquhile Johnne Douglas of Howden, being to repair to that cuntrey for recoverie by the ordinarie course of law and justice of the possessionis and goodis of his deceissit bruther, who with goode credite and reputatioun served the lait Quene of famous memorie in hir wearis in Yrland, made some conqueis of landis and goodis thair, and depairtit this lyffe without ony lauchfull issue of his body now on lyne to succeid unto him, he hes requirit of us our letter and recommendatioun unto your goode Lordships, that it may

pleis your Lordshipis to grant unto him summar, favourable, and redy justice. We, considering his reasounable requeist, haif thocht meete to accompany him with this oure letter, desiring your Lordshipis effectuslie to haif a favourable consideratioun of him, and to grant unto him suche furtherance and expeditioun in his sute without unnecessarie proces of law and with such equitie of justice as is aggreable to your Lordshipis honnour and to law, reasoun, and custome of the cuntrey, as we salbe willing and redy to shoue the lyke furtherance to ony of the subjectis of that cuntrey who salbe recommendit be your Lordshipis unto us. And sua recommending your goode Lordshipis unto Godis divyne protectioun, we rest your Lordshipis very assured goode friendis—A. Cancellarius, Glasgu, Lynlythqu, Perth, Lotheane, Sanquhair, Torphechin, R. Cokburne, Jo. Prestoun.

In the year 1574 we see it stated that Agnes Halkerstoun, relict of umquhile James Douglas in Over Howden had set a tack of her lands of Halkerstoun's Croft to James Douglas, son of the late Robert Douglas of Pumphrastoun, under "ane yeirlie maill or dewitie," which the tenant had failed and now refused to pay; and the tack was accordingly annulled by My Lord Regentis Grace, 12th February 1574.

Robert Douglas of Howden was present at an assize of the Barony of Calder met to deliberate as to what good statutes should be made anent the keeping of good order in the Barony, on 10th February 1583; and his name likewise appears in the list of tacksmen so often alluded to as bound to serve the baron and his tutor in arms at all Wappenschaw displays, when lawfully summoned thereto, 19th April 1586. Robert Dowglas of Ower Howden was a creditor for xx s. of the estate of the deceased William Sandilands in 1590. Then on 21st May 1601 complaint was made to the Privy Council by James Hereot of Trabroun, who figures as overlord or superior of the lands, making mention that upon Thursday the 7th of the said month, William Borthuik, brother of the late James, Lord Borthuik, and others, at nine hours of the morning came to the complenaris landis of Over Howden and there slew two of his horses while ploughing and wounded his ploughmen, so that they dared not labour his lands. The accused, not appearing, are ordered to be denounced His Highness' rebels.

From the foregoing notices it would appear that the Douglasses, though long seated at Howden, were hitherto connected with the property as tenants only, but shortly after this period their tenure became heritable. Thus on the 4th September 1603 Robert Douglas, of Wester Howden,

passed to those his lands of Wester Howden and there gave seisin of a part of the same to Isobell Skeldie, his spouse, and certain annual rents thereout to his sons and daughters, as follows :—Archibald Douglas, Peter, Robert, John, Christian, and Janet Douglas, conform to the tenour of a charter to be made thereupon. James Douglas in Nether Howden is a witness to the sasine. This laird was deceased prior to 1st July 1623, when there is a renunciation by Isobell Skeldie (who is designed relict of Robert Douglas of Over Howden, now spouse to Robert Thomson), and Cristine and Margaret Douglas, daughters of the said Robert. He was succeeded by Hew Douglas, designed portioner of Howden, his eldest son, who is witness to an alienation regarding the lands of Over Williamston by James Tennent, 3rd September 1621. Four years later there is a charter by the Provost of the Collegiate Church of Dalkeith, with the consent of William, Lord Dalkeith, confirming the lands of Wester Howden to William Douglas, eldest lawful son of James Douglas of Over Gogar, upon which seisin was given 8th November 1625. James Douglas, portioner of Over Gogar, is designed bailie and chamberlain to ane mighty lord William, Earl of Mortoun, and he died in the month of October 1635, nominating the above-named William Douglas, his eldest son, his sole executor. William Douglas of Over Gogar had a seat allotted to him in Calder church, in right of the lands of Howden, in the years 1646 and 1653. He died previous to 29th January 1669, on which date his testament is recorded. Mention is made therein of Elizabeth Douglas, his daughter, whose contract of marriage with Francis Aird, son of John Aird, elder, merchant burghess of Dundee, is dated 16th January 1656.

John Bryce in Pumpherstoun was next seized of the lands, although as trustee only for behoof of James Masoun, merchant burghess of Edinburgh. He was admitted an elder of the parish church 31st December 1663 ; and his daughter, Barbara Bryce, spouse of John Flint at Breichmylne, afterwards tenant in Burngrange, had a precept of *Clare Constat* as heir of her father, John Bryce, of the lands of Over Howden, 14th July 1675. From James Masoun the estate was appraised at the instance of several persons, and in the years 1683 and 1684 the various encumbrances affecting the property were acquired by Mr John

Inglis, advocate. Against this gentleman a process was raised in the Court of Session by Barbara Bryce and others, but the Lords found that the disposition of the said lands, granted by William Douglas of Gogar to the deceased John Bryce in Pumpherston, was taken in the said John Bryce's name allanerly in trust for James Masoun, to whom the lands did truly and only belong; and that they did now properly pertain to the said Mr John Inglis, as deriving right from him. The decret of reduction is dated 26th February 1691.

Mr John Inglis had principal seisin of the lands of Wester *alias* Over Howden on 25th March following. He was admitted a member of the Faculty of Advocates 5th December 1667, and he died previous to 15th February 1701, when John Inglis, his son, was served heir-general; a second son, Robert, is designed writer in Edinburgh in 1721. It would appear that the widow and family removed from the district after the death of Mr Inglis, as the following entry occurs at this time in our local records—

1702, *February* 8th—Appoints a testificat in favours of the Lady Ovirhowdin and all her familie.

JOHN INGLIS of Howden, the next proprietor, a writer in Edinburgh, had a disposition of the lands from James, Lord Torphichen, on 5th August 1708, and a charter thereof from Anne, Duchess of Buccleuch, as heir of the late Mr John Inglis, advocate, his father, dated 5th July 1709. In the year 1721 the property was conveyed by the trustees acting under a settlement by John Inglis, younger, writer to the Signet, to James Scott, also a writer in Edinburgh, who had seisin 28th August 1722, and was resident proprietor for many years. His wife was Barbara Allan, with whom he had two sons, James, W.S., and Robert, both mentioned in the disposition last referred to, and a daughter, Jean, married to John Measson, son of George Measson of Hassendean, whose daughter, Margaret M., was baptized at Howden, 11th October 1741. The lands were now again conveyed by James Scotts, elder and younger, to

WILLIAM WILSON, W.S., conform to a minute of sale dated 15th March 1753, on which occasion the property is described as all and hail the lands of Wester Howden with the principal house, office-houses, etc.,

in the parish of Mid-Calder. Mr Wilson was the eldest son of John Wilson, Bachelor of Humanity in Edinburgh, and he was admitted to the Society of Writers to His Majesty's Signet on 15th June 1739. He was twice married, firstly, on 3rd January 1732 to Mary Campbell, with whom he had three sons, mentioned below ; and secondly on 24th June 1757, to Margaret Young, daughter of Thomas Young, merchant, Edinburgh, and he died 18th June 1787, aged seventy-seven years. He made a settlement of the property at the time of his second marriage, in favour of himself in liferent and of Thomas Wilson, his eldest son, in fee, whom failing, to John Wilson, his second son, whom also failing to William Wilson, his youngest son, reserving an annuity of £100 sterling out of the said lands to Margaret Young, now his spouse, dated 12th October 1757.

MR THOMAS WILSON of Howden, who succeeded, was a member of the Faculty of Advocates, and by him, with consent of Margaret Young, relict of the late William Wilson, W.S., the property was sold on 16th May 1794 to Thomas Farquharson, formerly a medical officer in the army, surgeon to the 2nd battalion, 42nd Regiment. This proprietor resided at Howden for a period of about twenty-four years, and in the year 1818 the estate was again sold, Mrs Elizabeth White, relict of John White of Airth, being the purchaser. The seisin in her favour is dated 22nd May 1819. Mrs White was succeeded in 1834 by her son and daughter, the Rev. James White, and Charlotte White, wife of Henry Raeburn of St. Bernard's. Mr Raeburn, who was the only surviving son of Sir Henry Raeburn, the eminent artist, subsequently acquired, in the year 1842, the share of his brother-in-law, the Rev. James White, and some eighteen years after the date last-mentioned, he took up his residence upon his estate of Charlesfield in this parish, which he had purchased in 1846, and where he died 23rd July 1863. The lands of Howden were sold by him and by the trustees of his wife in October 1861 to Captain Robert Alexander Boothby Tod, youngest son of Robert Tod of Heathery Haugh, Co. Dumfries, a retired officer of the 94th Regiment, who resided at Howden for a period of about seventeen years. Upon his death, which occurred on 14th February 1879, in the forty-ninth year of his age, the property passed to his brother, William Tod of Heathery Haugh, near Moffat, by whom it was again sold in the year 1890 to James Edward Stoddart of Howden, the present proprietor.

## NETHER HOWDEN.

Nether Howden, which has ceased to exist as the name of particular lands, embraced in ancient times that portion of Mr Stoddart's property which lies between the Glasgow road and the river, the lands of Howden Park, and a considerable portion of Craigs. The steading was upon the last-named lands, in close proximity to the ruin of Nether Craigs, which still remains. The lands were divided early in the present century, and it may serve to indicate the proportions of the respective proprietors if we say that the yearly valued rent of Howden Haugh, which was at that time annexed to Mrs White's property of Howden, was £7, 10s. of old valuation, — of Howden Park £22, 10s.; and of the portion incorporated in Lord Torphichen's estate £90. The last-mentioned is still officially designated as Craigs and Howden, although in common parlance it goes under the name of Craigs. John Dowglase of Nether Howdane died on the 29th March 1576, leaving by Margaret Hamiltoun, his wife, who survived him, a son James, executor of his will, besides other children. This James Douglas of Nether Howden appears, in company with Robert Douglas of Over Howden, at the inquest of 1583, and his name is also included in the list of vassals of the barony of Calder, in connection with the military display held in the parish in 1586.

1587, *October* 18—Qlk day the baillie decerns James Craig to pay to James Dowglas of Howdon, as assignay lauchfullie constitut be ye tutor of Calder, iij bolls beir and xj bolls meill for ye fermes of ye land callit ye Quhin, of ye crop and zeir of God 1586.

Six years later he had a charter of the lands of Nether Howdoun from Mr David M'Gill of Neisbit, advocate, with consent of the Prebendary of Dalkeith College and of William, Earl of Mortoun, patron thereof, dated 31st March 1593. The charter is to James Douglas of Nether Houdoun and Jonet Kinloch his wife, and it narrates that the heritage has been in James's family, *ultra hominum memoriam*. In August 1595 a precept furth of Chancery is directed to James Douglas of Nether Howden for a sasine to be given to Elizabeth Heriot, on her marriage with James, Lord Torphichen. He witnesses, in 1603, a sasine to Robert Douglas of Wester Howden ; was deputed to attend the Presbytery of Linlithgow in



the name of the kirk of Calder, in the following year, in a matter relating to the settlement of a new minister in the parish ; and he was still living in 1622, when he is mentioned in our parish records as James Douglas, elder, sometime of Nether Howdan. About this time the property came into the possession of Quintigern Lockhart, son of the deceased Mungo Lockhart of Cleghorn, whose brother, Mr Alexander Lockhart of Braidschaw, was retoured his heir in the lands of Nether Howden 9th July 1633. This laird married Mary Tennent, and had two sons, Alexander and Stephen, and he was deceased at 9th March 1648. At that date Alexander Lockhart, now of Braidschaw, had a precept from Francis, Earl of Buccleuch, as nearest lawful heir of the late Mr Alexander Lockhart of Braidschaw, his father. A third Alexander Lockhart, designed merchant burgess of Edinburgh, but whose relationship, if any, to the Braidschaw family is not indicated, was next seized of the property. He had a charter of Nether Houdoun from Mr Alexander Lockhart of Braidschaw, and Alexander, his son, dated 21st August 1644, to hold under James Gilmour, son and heir of the deceased Mr Robert Gilmour, minister at Calder church, and of the foresaid laird of Braidschaw, in chief. This Alexander Lockhart, burgess of Edinburgh, was still proprietor in 1653 ; and in 1666 Abraham Pargillies of Nether Howden is mentioned. This gentleman, in 1653, was "in the Lynhous," and thereafter was for several years heritable proprietor of Alderston. He married Agnes Nemo, and was father of William Pargillies in Murrays, whose son, Abraham P., had a charter of Nether Howden from his grandfather, Abraham Pargillies elder, dated at Nether Howdoun 23rd June 1666. His will is dated on the 8th July following, and he died in the same year, nominating Agnes Nemo, his spouse, only executor and legatee. Abraham Pargillies younger gave seisin in liferent of his lands of Nether Howden to Elspeth Cather, his spouse, on 10th November 1692. He died in August 1701 leaving five children, viz.:—Abraham, John, William, Janet, and Elizabeth, all named in his will. Elizabeth Calder, his widow, afterwards married again to Alexander Aikman, who subsequently acquired right to the lands. Abraham Pargillies, the eldest son, and the third laird of the name in succession, had a precept from David, Earl of Northesk, as heir of his father of the lands of Nether Howdoun, 1st August 1718 ; and he died

in the month of February 1720, the inventory of his effects being given up by Janet and Elizabeth Pargillies, sisters-german to the deceased.

The lands of Nether Howden next came into the possession of the before-mentioned Alexander Aikman, who also acquired the estate of Easter Colzium on disposition by John Listoun of Easter Colzium, dated 28th November 1723. John Aikman son to Alexander Aikman, and Elizabeth Calder in Nether Howden, was baptized at Calder church 16th December 1709. At a later period Nether Howden was held for some time by the Sharps of Houstoun, and still more recently by Cunynghame of Livingston, by whom it was conveyed to Lord Torphichen and the other portioners.

The houses of Over Howden and Nether Howden are shewn in Blaeu's Atlas, 1662 ; and Nether Howden House was still standing, and is marked in Knox's map of the county of Edinburgh, published in 1820.



Fig. 22.—View of Linhouse from N E.

#### LINHOUSE.

This mansion-house certainly affords the most interesting example we possess of castellated domestic architecture, whilst in point of

antiquity it is second only to Calder House amongst the inhabited buildings of the parish. The original part of the house, which is shewn black upon the plan (Fig. 23), bears the date 1589 over the old entrance door

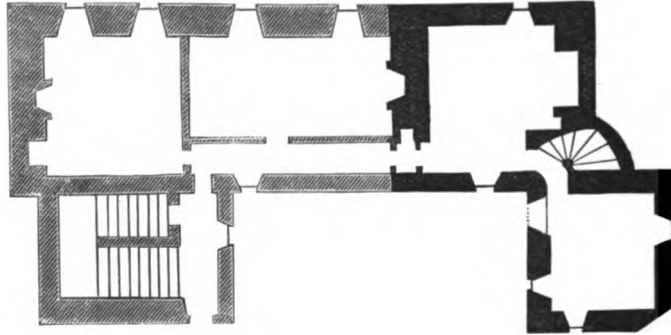


Fig. 23. — Plan of Linhouse.

which is now barred up. It consists of two square towers diagonally disposed in plan, and united by a circular tower in the angle. The similarity between this and the castle of Cairns, which is

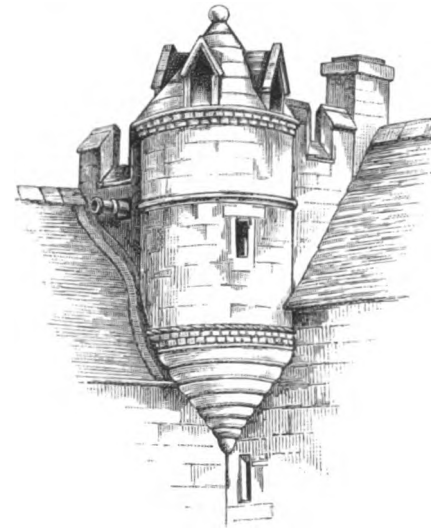


Fig. 24. — Angle Turret at Linhouse.

some 150 years earlier, leads to the suggestion that the architect may have modelled his plan upon that of Cairns, which is not more than two-and-a-half miles distant across the moor. The remarkable manner

in which the staircase tower is jammed in between the two main portions of the buildings is a striking feature common to both erections, and one which we do not recollect to have met with elsewhere. (Compare the annexed ground plan with Fig. 16, page 115). At Cairns Castle so little now remains that the resemblance cannot be observed as extending beyond the plan. Here, however, we have the round tower corbelled out to the square at the top and terminating in an embattled bartizan. The spiral stair ascends through the three stories of the house, above which

a circular angle turret contains a small newel stair giving access to the flat roof of the tower. The corbel courses which carry this turret are

enriched with carving of the cable and chequer pattern, which agrees well in character with the date upon the lintel ; and the turret itself terminates, not in a slated cone, as is usual in Scottish architecture of the period, but in a conical stone roof, with picturesque lucarnes—also an unusual feature. “The corbelling at the outer angle of the north-west wing,” say Messrs Macgibbon and Ross, “is a little inexplicable. Possibly some structure which stood here was afterwards removed, and the corbels inserted to carry the upper walls. But at the end of the 16th century the love of corbelling was so great that it was often employed without any apparent object.”

At the eastern end of this double tower, an extensive addition has been made in the 17th century, converting the mansion into a modified form of the **E** plan. The east wing contains the present entrance door and hall, with the modern and more commodious staircase.

We incline to regard the obvious derivation of the word “Linhouse” as the correct one,—namely the house beside the linn or waterfall which is situated at the foot of the garden, presenting perhaps the wildest and most romantic scene which the parish can boast. It is, however, a remarkable illustration of the corruption of language in popular parlance that the name is often written in the 16th century “Lennox,” and even “Levenax.” In Blaeu’s Atlas, published in 1662, the house is marked as “Lennos.”

At the earliest period to which our history extends, Linhouse was the seat of a branch of the powerful family of Tennent, whose scions were large landowners in this and neighbouring parishes. We have already had occasion to observe that the Tennents were early connected with Edinburgh, and one of them, Francis Tennent, was Lord Provost in 1571, when, according to Nisbet’s *Heraldry*, he was taken prisoner whilst “valiantly fighting for Queen Mary.” This connection may perhaps account for the motto of the City of Edinburgh—*NISI DOMINUS FRUSTRA*—being inscribed over the ancient doorway at Linhouse.

On the 14th November 1537 Thomas Weir of Blackwood and John Campbell found caution to underly the law at the next justice-aire of Lanark for art and part of the cruel slauchter of Archibald Tennent of Leuenax [Linhouse].

JAMES TENNENT of Linhouse is the next laird mentioned. He had a feu charter of ane half of a third part of the landis of Owir Williamstoun from Johnne Sandilandis fear of Calder, with consent of James Sandilands of Calder, Knyt, his father, under the seals and subscriptions of the parties,



Fig. 25.—Carved lintel at Linhouse.

1st August 1534; which charter was presented by Archibald Tennent, and recorded in the books of the Baron Court of Calder, 19th April 1586. James Tennent of Lynhouse is a witness in 1558 to a charter of James, Lord St John, to David Dundas of Brestmill; and also, about the same period, to a rental in favour of Katherine Spens, relict of umquhile George Inglis, and Thomas Inglis, her son, of their kyndlie roun and maling of Auldlistoun. He married Margaret Sandilands, who survived him, and appears to be a daughter of John Sandilands of Calder; and he died in the month of February 1573. His latter will is dated at the Linhous 21st February 1573, wherein he constitutes James Cochrane of Barbachlay and James Tennent, his son and apparent heir, his executors. Sir James Sandelandis is a witness.

JAMES TENNENT of Linhouse, who succeeded his father above-named, appears as one of the debtors in the inventory of Patrick Tennent, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh, who died on 5th January 1584-5. He was present upon an inquest of the Barony of Calder held 10th February 1583, for determining quhat guid statutis suld be made anent the keeping of guid ordor; and two years later an Act of the same Court appoints that when there is any fray, ilk man of the baronie salbe reddie to follow the fray to the end with the Tutor of Calder, or in his absence with the Laird Lennos. Shortly thereafter he was elected bailie

of the barony as the following note bears, and in this office he was the colleague of John Stevinson of Hirdmanshiels.

1585, *May 4*—Quo die Jacobus tenent de Lennos electus est ballivus baronie de Calder Comitatus ad voluntate tutores, et juratus est.

On 26 July 1586, James Tenent of Lennoss, became caution to entir the laird of Cragyhall to answer as law will at the next Court; and his name also appears in the list of vassals who were to appear at the Wappenschaw held on the hill of Calder in the following month, his qualification being a horse worth 100 merks and complete armour. Then, on 22nd May 1587, James Tennent of Lennox was delaited along with others, for contravening our Sovereign Lord's pleasure in abiding from a raid appointed to follow the King to Dumfries on 3rd April last bi-past. He became caution for James Farrar, 5 November 1588, that xxviiij merks salbe furthcumand to Henry Dowglas, he provand the same to pertain to him. It clearly was by this laird that the older portion of the present mansion house was erected in 1589; he is mentioned also in the years 1595 and 1597; and in 1599 he entered, in company with Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston, writer, into an agreement with Lord Torphichen for the acquisition jointly of the greater part of the temple lands as they were called, or the possessions in Scotland of the suppressed Order of St John of Jerusalem. The extent of Linhouse's concern in the matter is not clear, but before 1604 he had resigned his share in the negotiation, and Williamson became the sole purchaser. It is a little difficult always to estimate the precise nature and object of transactions from the bare record of them which has reached us. Thus we see in the month of February 1600, the whole lands and barony of Calder, with fortalice, manor, woods, mills, etc., were conveyed by the Lord Torphichen, for the price of one silver penny, to James Tennend of Linhous, who eight days later reconveyed the same subjects to the Hon. James Sandilands, master of Torphichen. James Tennent of Lynhous was on an assize in 1607 and again in 1609; and he was a frequent witness to the charters of his brother-in-law, John, Archbishop of Glasgow, between 1607 and 1610. In March 1605 he was amerciat in the pane of five hundreth merkis as surety for Johnne Spottiswoid of that Ilk, for

failing to enter the said John to underly the law for his slaughter of Thomas Quhippo of Leyhoussis, committit in the yeir of God 1595 zeiris. Shortly after this comes a process against himself for debt, into which he appears to have been plunged to a large extent as surety for faithless friends in all parts of the country. Between 1612 and 1620 these unpleasant reminders become very frequent from numerous creditors, and there are many charges to the Captain of the Guard to seize his houses and lands to the King's use. Such an order was made by the Privy Council on 4th February 1619, in pursuance of a horning obtained against him on the 2nd of December preceding at the instance of Mr Robert Williamson, Writer to the Signet, for not fulfilling a certain contract and not removing from the manor place and mains of Lynhouse, "and the pendiclis thair of callit Leddindorie, Leddinfrosk and Blaiklandis," as also from that third part of Overwillamestoun callit the Bentis. The old laird seems, however, to have kept them for a long time at bay, and James Tennent of Lynhous was chancellor of an assize 5th June 1624. He died in July 1630, David Tennent, sometime servitor to the deceased, being executor quâ creditor decerned to him. This laird married Rachel Spottiswood, daughter of the Rev. John Spottiswood, rector of Calder and Superintendent of Lothian, who is mentioned as his wife in 1600, and with her had two daughters, namely Rachel, whose contract of marriage is dated 23rd May 1600; and Margaret, who was married 2nd January 1606 to Thomas Inglis of East Shiel.

In the year 1616 James Williamsone of Castel Robert had a charter of the lands of Linhouse, Easter and Wester Hairburne, a third part of Over Williamstone and other lands from James, Lord Torphichen, upon which seisin was given 22nd May 1620. From him the property came into the possession of the above designed Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston, for, four years after the date last-mentioned, James Williamson of Murieston had seisin of the lands of Linhous, with the tower, manor place, etc., upon a precept granted to him by John, Lord Torphichen, as lawful and undoubted heir of the late Mr Robert Williamson, his brother-german. Seisin was given 19th January 1624, John Kinloch, brother-german to Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderstoun, being a witness.

Then in July 1631 John Muirheid of Wester Inche of Bathgate had

seisin of the lands of Lynhouse, Blacklandis, Skevoch, etc., with tower and manor place, in the barony of Calder Comitis, upon a charter in his favour by John, Lord Torphichen, dated 17th May 1631. This gentleman was descended of a family which for several generations had been seated at the Inches of Bathgate, and the chief of which was Muirhead of Lachope. Richard Muirheid of the West Inch of Bathgait died 20th March 1592-3; and James Muirheid of the same died in the month of January 1616—both their testaments being confirmed at Edinburgh.

JOHN MUIRHEAD of Linhouse makes his debut in our parochial records in a situation of a highly exemplary nature.

1634, *September 13*—Jhone Pottar having spoken injurious words regarding Jhone Muirheid of Lynhous appeared at the church as he was injoynit ye sabboth day befor, bare heidit, upon his bare kneis, and cravit Jhone Muirheid's forgevines at ye quire doore; and ye said Jone Muirheid forgave and tuik him up be ye hand.

1636, *June 5*—The quhilk day compeirit Johne Muirheid of Lynhous and of his awin accord actit himselff to be lyabel to any stint or taxatioun imposit upone ye paroch of Calder for poynting, repairing or helping of ye kirk in ony sort, conforme to ye rent of his lands; and the Sessioun grantit him ane Roome for ane sait in any pairt of ye Kirk where it might most commodious be fund without tuile to others.

The following notice gives us incidentally a glimpse at the exercise of church discipline at this period :—

1645, *May 24*—Ordainis Mungo Lockhart of Harwood and John Muirheid of Lynhous, being at variance, not to cum to the communioun till they be aggreit.

This laird of Linhouse favoured the Royalist cause during the Civil War, and brought himself in consequence into frequent collision with his parish minister, who was an active partisan of the triumphant republicans. Thus, upon the occurrence in the year 1648 of the "Engagement," as it was called, by which the Duke of Hamilton undertook to march into England to the support of King Charles, Johne Muirheid of Lynhous was called before the Session and "declaired that he never satt in Duik Hamilton's Comittie, nor did never vote therein." But his conduct was more remarkable when Montrose passed through the parish in 1646, after his victory at Kilsyth. Evidence was given on the 13th September in that year that Linhouse was seen armed with swords and pistols, and that



he bade John and Patrick Kedders render their purses. A fortnight later

1646, *September 27*—James Meik in Torbainhill deponit that Jone Muirheid of Lynhous, at Torbainhill, cam ryding with twa swordis and askit his purse, bot quidder in joke or earnest he knew not.

One would be inclined to suppose this may have been a ruse to cover the fact of his riding in arms with more honourable intent, but the next entry can scarcely bear so charitable a construction.

*Eod. die.*—Abrahame Pargilleis, sworne, deponit that Lynhous, affraying throw terror of the Enemy moved him yrby to sell him all his guidis and gier far within the worth.

Accordingly, on the 31st October, Jone Muirheid is rebuked publictly befor pulpit for his scandallous behavior quhen Jamis Grahamis airmie cam alongst this countrie. Muirheid is mentioned in connection with the allocation of seats in the parish church in 1653, and he died in the month of January 1664. His wife was Katharine Hamiltoun, with whom he had three sons and a daughter, namely, Mr John, of whom below; William, mentioned in 1664 and 1665; Alexander, baptized 19th April 1649, and died before 8th April 1665, when his brother William was served his heir; and Isobel, baptized 24th May 1638.

Mr JOHN MUIRHEAD of Linhouse, the succeeding laird, was retoured heir-general of John Mureheid of Lynhous, his father, 15th July 1664, and in May 1671 he was seized on a precept furth of the chancellerie of an annual rent of 174 merks out of the lands of Newliston, as lawful and nearest heir of the deceased Alexander Muirheid, his brother-german. He married Agnes, daughter of Sir Alexander Murray of Blackbarony, to whom he gave sasine in liferent of the lands of Lynhous, Blaiklandis, Lendovy and Skevoucht, with tower and manor place, as also of his lands of Nether Alderston, and half of the Inches of Bathgate. The marriage contract is dated at Darnhall, 24th September 1664, the said Agnes being then promised spouse of Mr John Muirheid of Lynhous. They had two sons, Alexander, who succeeded, and John, and four daughters, namely, Margaret, born 24th November 1665; Katherine, born 7th June 1668; Jean, born 20th June 1669; and Lillas, born 15th September 1670. Mr

John Muirhead's will is recorded at Edinburgh, 2nd August 1672, Sir Archibald Murray of Blackbarony and James Lawsons of Cairnmuire being tutors dative given to his minor children; but the date of the testator's demise is not given.

ALEXANDER MUIRHEAD of Linhouse, son of the foregoing, was born in the month of December 1666, and on 4th March 1680 there are two precepts in his favour by Walter, Lord Torphichen, as lawful and nearest heir of the deceased Mr John Muirhead of Linhouse, his father, of the lands of Linhouse, etc., the lands of Nether Alderstoune, and the lands of Corsitburne, *alias* Easter Crosswood, with tower, fortalice, and manor place, all in the barony of Calder. George Tennent in Linhouse is a witness to the seisin on 9th April in the same year. There is a further precept from Chancery to Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse as heir to his father 18th June 1697; he is a witness in 1708 to the baptism of the Hon. Patrick Sandilands, son of Lord Torphichen, and in the following year he obtained a charter under the Great Seal of the lands of Lenhouse, Blacklands, Lindrovie and Skevoucht, with tower and manor place, as also the lands of Crosswoodburn, *alias* Easter Crosswood, with fortalice thereon, which Her Majesty disjoins from the barony of Calder, and creates and erects into the free barony of Linhouse. This charter is dated at Edinburgh, 13th February 1709. A few years later Alexander Muirhead acquired the lands of Berryhill, Blackhall, and others, upon a disposition by Christian Muir, daughter of Adam Muir of Blackhall, and spouse of John Dundas, writer in Edinburgh, dated 8th March 1712. His name occurs in technical transactions affecting the property in 1717 and 1719; and on 8th October 1720 he had a precept of *Clare Constat* as heir of the deceased John Muirhead of Wester Inch, his grandfather, of the lands of Wester Inch of Bathgate. In the same year, he conveyed the whole of his landed estates to David Muirhead, his only son then surviving, upon the occasion of his marriage with a daughter of the house of Ancrum. Alexander Muirhead was still living in 1737; he married Mary Murray, who survived him, and had two sons, John, designed his eldest lawful son in 1712, but died before 1720, and David, of whom below.

DAVID MUIRHEAD, younger of Linhouse, a surgeon and burghess of Edinburgh, had a disposition from Alexander Muirhead, his father, of the

lands and barony of Linhouse, etc., and the lands of Wester Inch, to him and the heirs male descending from him and Mistress Jean Scott, his wife; whom failing to the heirs male of the said David in any other lawful marriage; whom also failing to his heirs female, the eldest daughter to succeed without division, and to marry a gentleman of the surname of Muirhead, or one at least who should assume the same, and carry the arms of the house and family of Muirhead of Linhouse, otherwise to lose all right. He married Jean Scott, third daughter of Sir Patrick Scott of Ancrum, baronet, with whom he had two children surviving infancy, namely, Alexander and Margaret. The marriage contract is dated at Edinburgh, Linhouse, and Ancrum, 29th and 30th April and 5th May, 1720, Captain James Muirhead of the 3rd Regiment of Foot being a witness. David Muirhead died in Edinburgh in the month of June 1724, the summa of his inventory amounting to £15,580, 9s. 2d.; and his widow afterwards married again to James Gartshore of Alderston, W.S.

ALEXANDER MUIRHEAD, the succeeding laird, had a disposition from James, Lord Torphichen, of the lands of Camilty and Camilty miln, and "the Wellheads of Nether Williamston," dated at Calder House, 29th July 1737, wherein he is designed Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse, younger, grandchild of Alexander Muirhead, of the same. He obtained a charter of the barony under the Great Seal, upon his own resignation, 13th February 1744, and had likewise a precept as heir of his father, David Muirhead, of the lands of Wester Inch, 24th July 1747. In the last-named year, he and Janet Bogle his wife, eldest daughter of the deceased John Bogle of Bogleshole, W.S., had seisin of the estate on their contract of marriage, under reservation of a liferent annuity of 1000 merks out of the lands of Crosswoodburn to Mistress Jean Scot his mother (who is now the spouse of James Gartshore, W.S.), and of another annuity of 1000 merks furth of the lands of Linhouse to Mistress Mary Murray, relict of the late Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse, his grandmother. Janet, his wife, was in 1756 served heir-portioner of her father, and of William Bogle of Bogleshole, her brother-german. They had a numerous family, namely, Patrick, born 2nd January 1758; Jean, born 5th April 1748; Isobel; Janet; Marion, born 17th January 1759; Mary, and Wilhelmina. These children were all served heirs-portioners of the late Alexander

Muirhead of Linhouse, their father, on 1st April 1801, at which date Patrick was a planter in Jamaica; Janet was wife of the Rev. Henry Stevenson, minister at Blantyre; and Wilhelmina was the wife of Robert Barbour, merchant in Glasgow.

The barony of Linhouse had in the meantime been sold by Alexander Muirhead in the year 1767 to

Mr THOMAS CALDERWOOD of Polton, advocate, son of Sir William Calderwood of Polton, one of the Senators of the College of Justice. The price paid was £9600, and the destination of the title is determined as follows:—To Mr Thomas Calderwood in life-rent, and Captain William Calderwood, his eldest son, in fee, and to the heirs male descending from the said William, whom failing to his heirs female, the eldest succeeding without division by secluding her sisters throughout the whole course of succession. Failing these, to Captain James Calderwood of the 25th Regiment of Foot, second son of the said Mr Thomas, and his heirs male or female as above; then to any other heir male of the body of Mr Thomas Calderwood; whom all failing to Mrs Anne Calderwood or Durham, his only daughter, and spouse of James Durham of Largo. The disposition is dated 16th November 1767, and Andrew Houstoun of Calderhall is a witness. Mr Thomas Calderwood of Linhouse died in the year 1773, and Captain James, his second son, was deceased at 19th December 1787, when Anne Calderwood or Durham was served his heir of provision. The property descended to

COL. WILLIAM CALDERWOOD of Polton and Linhouse, who at his death was Colonel of the first troop of Horse Guards. He died without issue on 2nd July 1787, and the baronies of Polton and Linhouse descended, in virtue of the above-mentioned settlement, to his only sister Anne Calderwood, wife of James Durham of Largo, who thenceforward assumed the style of James Calderwood-Durham. The date of her seisin is 12th October 1787, and by her the barony of Linhouse, which included Camilty and the Mill lands of the same, was conveyed, in the year 1793, to trustees, whom she directed to sell the lands of Linhouse, etc., and with the proceeds to pay off certain debts affecting the entailed estate of Polton. By these trustees the property was sold 14th January 1799, for the price of £10,920, to James Home, clerk to the Signet.

JAMES HOME of Linhouse, W.S., had a charter under the Great Seal confirming to him the barony of Linhouse, 4th July 1801. He married Catherine Mitchell, who survived him, and had three sons and two daughters, namely, James, who succeeded; David, in the service of the Hon. East India Company; John Belshes Home; Catherine; and Mary Hepburn Home. The laird died in 1819, and the title of the estate vested in his testamentary trustees until 22nd February 1826, when it was conveyed by them to his eldest son, James Home of Linhouse. This proprietor seems to have become involved in pecuniary embarrassments, and the barony of Linhouse was, on 31st May 1838, sold under warrant from the court in a process of Ranking and Sale, at the instance of his creditors. The price paid was £16,500, and the lands were conveyed to certain trustees who held, under Act of Parliament, the proceeds of the sale of the entailed estate of Burnbrae, in the parish of Tulliallan, Perthshire. The latter-named lands, we may remark, had been long in the family of Primrose, the descendants of Archibald Primrose of Burnbrae, *anno* 1595, from whose younger son the Earl of Rosebery's family is derived. An arrangement was at this time made, under the sanction of the Courts, by which this property was sold and the barony of Linhouse purchased, the name of the latter being changed to Burnbrae, and held under a deed of entail executed by Edward Primrose in 1770. In furtherance of this arrangement, the estate of Linhouse was, on 9th July 1838, conveyed to Mrs Jane Hay Primrose, heiress of entail in possession of the late John Primrose of Burnbrae, and wife of George Foster Hay Primrose, surgeon in the service of the East India Company. The deed of entail of Linhouse provides that the family name of Primrose of Burnbrae should be borne by all future proprietors of the estate, and the Crown charter which followed on the deed contains the clause "nunc et omni tempore futuro terras, baroniam et statum de Burnbrae vocand." The estate was disentailed by due process of law in the year 1850. Mrs Hay Primrose died on 27th December 1858, and was succeeded in the estate by her sister, Miss Rachael Primrose, who died within the following two years; and the property was in 1874 sold by the trustees acting under the testamentary settlements of these ladies, for the sum of £28,110, to the late Mr Thomas

Laing, of No 17 Palmerston Road, Grange, Edinburgh. The description of the estate contained in the conveyance in his favour begins thus: "All and whole the lands, barony and estate of Linhouse, thereafter Burnbrae, which are now to be held and called by the original name of Linhouse in all times coming." Mr Laing died on 31st December 1882, and the estate of Linhouse, embracing the farms of Skivo, Wellheads, Ballgreen, Blackhall, and Over Williamston, was, on 14th May 1883, in terms of his bequest, conveyed to the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, to which Institution it now belongs.

The dove-cot at Linhouse (Fig. 26) would probably be erected soon after the creation of the barony in 1709, as may be supposed from its style and appearance. The right of *columbis et columbariis* was looked upon

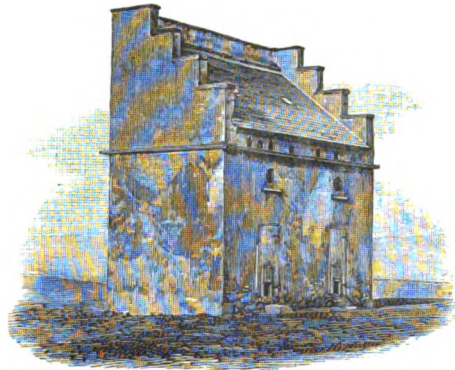


Fig. 26.—Ancient dove-cot at Linhouse.

as an indispensable pertinent of every barony, and we accordingly find dove-cots both at Linhouse and at Alderston, which latter was dignified with a baronial charter in 1696. But there is no trace nor recollection of such having existed at Calder House, the seat of the older and parent barony.

#### OVER-WILLIAMSTON.

The property thus designated embraced at one time a considerable tract of country, including the lands of Harburn, Harburnhead, Bents and others; and, like Nether Williamston, it has received its name from the

Williamsons of that Ilk, who were at one time extensive proprietors in the district. On 11th February 1492 James Sandilands of Caldor, Knycht intromits with the third parte of the lands of Williamstoun-schelis, the third parte of the lands of Braidschaw, the third parte of four akers of land liand besid ye Camolty Chappell and other lands; and so late as 1635, James Williamsoun of Williamstoun was retoured heir of his father, James Williamsoun of the same, in a third part of the lands of Over Williamstoun called the Bentis, in the barony of Calder. The lands of Over Williamston proper had, however, passed in the 16th century into the family of Tennent. There is a charter by Johnne Sandilandis fear of Calder, setting in feu to James Tennent and his airis quhatsumeuir, ane half of a third part of the lands of Owir Williamstoun, 1st August 1534; and Archibald Tennent of Williamstoun, in company with my Lord Torphechin, is exempted from a charge of abiding from a raid at Leith, 22nd November 1571. Jonet Purdie, widow, relict of the deceased James Tennent in Over Williamstoun, died in the month of January 1580, the inventory of her affairs being given up by Archibald, James, and Katherine Tennent, her sons and daughter. Martene Tennent in Over Williamstoun died in May 1581, leaving five sons; George, William, David, John, and Gawine Tennents, executors dative surrogate to him. James Tennent, portionar of Ower Williamstoun, is included amongst the vassals for the Wappenschaw display in 1586; and, in 1606, James Tennent is mentioned. James Tennent elder, of Over Williamstoun, again appears in 1614, and on 22nd March 1622 he gave seisin of annual rents out of his two parts of the lands of Over Williamstoun in the barony of Calder to his younger sons, namely, to John Tennent, his second son, to William, his third son, Mungo, his fourth son, and David, his youngest son. The heir was James Tennent, who figures somewhat frequently in the register of the Kirk-Session as zounger of Over Williamstoun, between 1639 and 1645. His failings were drunkenness, absence from church, etc.; and on 5th December 1644 it became necessary that he should engage "to do all cristiane dewtie to his father, and to subscribe this act." Martha Lightoun daughter of the late James Lightoun of Over Williamstoun, had seisin of the 2½ merk land of Over Williamstoun, Berriehill and Blackhall, June 1682. James Fairer in Over Williamstoun was ordained an elder of the parish

church, 17th November 1672; and in 1684, Thomas Williamson, son to James Williamson in Over Williamston, was proclaimed a fugitive rebel in connection with the religious troubles of that period.

## SKIVO.

Regarding the lands of Skivo, we observe John Sandelandis in Skivo mentioned in the transactions of the Barony Court of Calder in the year 1588, and again at 2nd June 1596, when he was decerned to receive xix merkis money from Jon Uchiltrie, being the price of ane ox bought and received from him. There is also a sasine of an annual rent of 50 merks out of the lands of Skevoche, given by James Tennent of Lynhous to Rachell, his daughter, in implement of her contract of marriage, which is dated 23rd May 1600. Rachael Spotiswod, spouse of the said James, and Beatrix Creychtoun, relict of Mr John Spotiswod, rector of Calder, her mother, are parties to the transaction. John Anderson in Skevo became caution that Thomas Anderson should satisfy the kirk for scandal, 2nd October 1640. He died in May 1661, leaving free gear amounting to £3792, 2s.; Mr Hew Kennedie, minister at Calder, is amongst the debtors to his estate, and John Mureheid of Lynehous is a creditor.

## BLACKHALL.

On 1st June 1524 the lands of Blackhall in the barony of Calder were ceded by Sir James Sandilands of Calder to Margaret Bertoun, affianced spouse of John Sandilands, his apparent heir. By the same John Sandilands fiar of Calder, the lands of Blackhall lying within the territory of Over Williamstoun and barony of Calder, were set in feu to George Tennent and the heirs descending from him and Marioun Cuthertsoun his spouse, 6th May 1539. The lands were united to this estate in the year 1712, when Alexander Muirhead of Linhouse acquired these and other adjacent lands from the heiress of the Muirs of Blackhall. The present tenant is Mr James Fleming, whose ancestors, according to Dr Sommers' account of the parish, have been settled at Blackhall ever since the year 1518. The name is certainly an old one in the district. David



Ffleeming in Ballgreen is mentioned in the year 1695 ; and in 1734 James Fleming in Blackhall was requested to serve as a kirk elder, but declined. At Blackhall the author was shown an old waistcoat of brocaded velvet and brown plush breeches, said to have been worn at his wedding in 1721, by James Gray of Cairns. The garments afford a choice example of the costume of that picturesque period.



Fig. 27.—View of Murieston House from S E.

#### MURIESTON.

The lands of Murieston are situated about the centre of the parish, upon the banks of the rivulet to which they have given their name, and adjacent to what was in olden days denominated the West Muir of Calder. The East Moor is the name given in old atlases to the country about Selms, on the east of Calder Wood ; whilst the West Moor extended from about Murieston and Linhouse to Baads and further west. As the name of this property is frequently written in early charters Muirhoustoun, we have little difficulty in determining the etymology of the word, as signifying the Toun of the house in the Moor. The ancient seat of the estate was upon the lands of Wester Murieston, which are now attached to Westfield, and in our remarks regarding that property (page 191) some historical notices of Murieston Castle are given, with

a pictorial illustration of its remains. The present mansion-house on the lands of Easter Murieston consists of a plain rectangular structure with extensive offices in the rear, which from their appearance may have been erected about the end of last century, and to the east elevation of which an addition with a handsome facade of classical design, and a pediment over the entrance door, was made by John Learmonth of Murieston in 1855. In the garden is an old facet-headed sundial of ingenious construction.

The property was held in the 16th century by the Williamsouns of that Ilk, who were anciently extensive proprietors in the parish, taking their designation from the adjacent lands of Williamston. In a transaction of the year 1619, however, mention is made of the fourth part of the lands of Muriestoun with tower, fortalice, etc. and the lands of Nether *alias* Easter Muriestoun, "sometime pertening to Sir James Sandilands of Slamanno."

The following references to tenants in Murieston appear in the Proceedings of the Barony Court.

1585, *May 4*—James Gibsoun is decernit to pay x merks for ij zeiris teind of Eister Mureistoun, and farder as the rentall beiris within terme of law.

1585, *December 28*—The quhilk day the baillie decerns Thomas Sandelandis in Mureistoun to content and pay to Thomas Baird xxxj sh. iiij d. the pryce of 3 bollis beir.

MR ROBERT WILLIAMSOON, a burgess of Edinburgh, is the first of his race who is designed "of Murieston ;" and he appears to have been a younger son of James Williamsoun of Williamstoun. In 1586, he was the articed pupil of Mr Robert Scot of Knichtispottie, clerk to the Lords of Council and writer to the College of Justice, and a few years after that date he himself became a writer in Edinburgh. His name figures somewhat conspicuously in the national registers, which is chiefly due to the fact of the Temple property having passed through his hands. Upon the suppression of the Knights of St John at the Reformation, their possessions, which included all the old "temple lands" or estates of the Knights Templars, were bestowed upon the house of Calder in return for certain services rendered to the Crown. This was in the year 1563, and in 1599 Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston

and James Tennent of Linhouse united in purchasing from the Lord Torphichen half of all the temple property in Scotland, excepting the baronies of Torphichen, Liston, Ballintrodo, and other portions retained by his lordship. Linhouse subsequently gave up his share in the contract, and in 1604 Williamson became possessed of the other half of the property, which was ratified by Act of Parliament in 1606, and afterwards erected into the free tenandry of the temple lands. The whole of these estates were gradually conveyed away by him to various persons, and there are numerous charters in the register of the Great Seal having relation to these transactions between the years 1605 and 1620. In these charters he is designed Mr Robert Willamesoun of Mureistoun, writer, proprietor and superior of all the temple lands in Scotland. Mr Robert dying without issue between August 1620 and July 1622, he was succeeded by his brother James Williamsoun, who was seized also of the lands of Linhouse upon a precept of *Clare Constat* by John, Lord Torphichen, as lawful and undoubted heir of the late Mr Robert Williamson of Muriestoun, his brother-german, 19th January 1624.

JAMES WILLIAMSON is designed of Murieston 2nd July 1622, when he witnesses a seisin of the lands of Alderstoun to Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderstoun, and he acts as bailie for the same Mr Patrick in a transaction in the following year, having relation to the lands of Howatston. He was served heir of his father, James Williamsoun of that Ilk, in the lands of Nether *alias* Easter Muriston, the lands of Nether Williamstoun and a third part of the lands of Over Williamstoun called the Bentis, 4th November 1635. On the 19th June 1628 he entered into a contract with William Ross of Torphin, disposing the above-named lands of Easter Murieston and Nether Williamstoun to the said William Ross and to Elizabeth Houston, his spouse, for the sum of 5000 merks. The disposition is effected by James with consent of Marie Pollock his spouse, and of John Hamilton, apothecary, burgess of Edinburgh, Mr Alex. Lockhart of Braidschaw, Mr Joseph Tennent, persone of Badrewll and David Crichton, writer in Edinburgh, at whose instance the foresaid James Williamsoun is inhibited from alienation of his lands and heritages; the witnesses include Mr John Sandilands, advocate, and Mr Harie Sandilands, brother-german of Lord Torphichen.

WILLIAM ROSS of Torphin, who now became laird of Murieston, was the second son of James, 4th Lord Ross of Halkhead, who died in 1581, and brother of the Hon. Jean Ross, wife of Sir James Sandilands of Calder. There is a charter in his favour of the lands Murieston and Williamstoun by James Williamson of Murestoun dated 20th June 1628; and on the 26th of the same month he was seized of the lands of Easter, Wester and Middle Murieston with ten acres of moor called the West Moor of Calder, together with the lands of Dreschelrig etc., upon a charter by John, Lord Torphichen. In our Session's records there occur various references to a dispute regarding a seat in the parish church, which are in a measure pertinent to our inquiry.

1630, *February 7*—James Anderson in Ormistoun was admonished this day not to sit in ye seat pertening to umquhile James Williamstoun off Muristoun, till tryell war takin to quhom it appertenit, in respect William Ross off Muristoun productit ryt thereto.

1641 *March 10*—Fforasmuch as ane contraversie has lately fallen furth betwixt Mungo Lockhart and James Anderson in Dubend, annent ye sait quhilk appertayned to James Williamsoun of that Ilk, it was thought guid be the Sessioun that Mungo Lockhart of Hardwod, being factor and doer to Sir Williame Ross of Murrison, Knight, to quhom the said James Williamsoun's lands war disponit, should sett in ye said seat till the contraversie war cleirit and the said James Anderson's wyf should sitt with him, providing scho mak no offence.

It appears that James Anderson had married a daughter of the old laird of Williamstoun; the Session however, decided a few months later that the possession of the seat passed with the lands, the following disposition under the hand of James Williamson having been exhibited to them:

I, James Williamstoun be thir presents, declairis to ye Sessioners of Calder that I have fullie disponit my seat in Calder Kirk to Sir Williame Ross, and that nan uther hath any ryt yrto. And that James Anderson my guid brother hes no Right yrto, becaus I have disponit it of Long tyme befor his alledgit ryt to Sir Williame Ross, qlk I declare to be of verity. Be thir presents writtin and subt. with my hand at Paislay this 23 of Junii, [1641] sic subscribitur I. Williamsoun.

William Ross was succeeded by his son

SIR WILLIAM ROSS of Murieston, who is mentioned in our parish records in 1641 and 1646, and he appears as one of the objectors to the division of the parish into Mid and West Calder in 1647. He was Colonel of Foot in the Ayr and Renfrew Regiment in 1648; one

of the Committee of Estates 1649, and was fined £3000 sterling under Cromwell's "Act of Grace and Pardon," 1654. On the failure of the elder line of the family of Halkhead in August 1648, the laird of Murieston succeeded to the peerage as 10th Lord Ross; and he was retoured heir male of Robert, the 9th Lord, in the lands, lordship and barony of Melville and Halkhead 20th March 1649. He shortly after this seems to have left the parish, as upon the allotment of seats in the church in 1653, "my Lord Torphichen did sett up ane single sait, wher my lord Ross his sait was befor." He married Helen, eldest daughter of George, Lord Forrester, of Corstorphine, and died in the year 1656. In 1654 Lady Ross gave £30 to be expended upon a new pulpit for Calder Church.

After this, the lands of Easter Murieston were for some time attached to Lord Torphichen's own property in the barony; and they bore, with other lands, the provision of Lady Jean Hume, wife of the 7th Lord, in 1711. Then on 4th April 1732 the lands of Easter and Wester Cockrigs, and Easter Muiristoun were disposed by James, Lord Torphichen (but with, and under the power and faculty after expressed), to Matthew Paterson, merchant in Linlithgow.

MATTHEW PATERSON of Murieston, who thus became laird, contracted to pay £5660 Scots for the lands, representing twenty years' purchase of the free rental, with agreement that the Lord Torphichen, might redeem the property upon repayment of this sum at any time within six years from Martimas 1731, and if not then redeemed, Paterson became bound to pay £849 more, as further three years' rental, in addition to the twenty years' purchase. This provision having been carried into effect, the lands were irredeemably renounced in favour of Matthew Paterson, at Calder House, 11th November 1737. The name of the estate was by this proprietor altered to "Paterson," but it again reverted to the original designation under the succeeding lairds.

CAPTAIN GEORGE DICK, late of General Cornwall's Regiment of Marines, elder son of George Dick of Greenbank, writer in Mid-Calder, was next seized of Easter and Wester Cockrigs, and Easter Murieston, upon a disposition by Matthew Paterson, merchant in Linlithgow, of date 14th November 1751. At the same time Captain Dick conveyed an equal half of the lands of Easter Murieston called Cockrigs to James Wylie,

dyster in Mid-Calder, and Helen Peebles, his spouse ; and this portion of the lands is the present estate of Bankton. Captain Dick succeeded his father in the mansion-house of Greenbank, and the lands of West Cairns and West Colzium in the highland district of the parish ; he died before 1779, when these various lands passed to his younger brother

WILLIAM DICK of Greenbank, officer of Excise at Dumbarton. This proprietor was seized of the lands of Easter Murieston with the teinds thereof, on a precept of *Clare Constat* by James, Lord Torphichen, as heir of his brother, Captain George Dick, dated 8th May 1782 ; and he was retoured heir-general of the late George Dick, writer in Mid-Calder, his father, on the 7th August in the same year. He died in 1792, leaving a son, George Dick, officer of Excise at Elie, and the lands of Easter Murieston were, in the year following, disposed by his testamentary trustees to Henry Jamieson.

HENRY JAMIESON of Murieston, banker in Edinburgh, was seized of the property on 2nd December 1793, upon a charter in his favour by James, Lord Torphichen, dated 21st November preceding. He purchased from the Linhouse estate the north park of Wellheads, extending to 24 acres, 2 roods, and 10 falls of land, of which he had a feu charter by Anne Calderwood-Durham of Polton, dated 26th January 1795, and which henceforth was attached to this property. Although we may be mistaken, we incline to think that the older portion of Murieston House was built by Mr Jamieson. He appears to have become involved in pecuniary embarrassments, and there is a disposition by him, with consent of his creditors, of his lands of Easter Murieston, dated 11th November 1806, in favour of Roger Aytoun, writer to the Signet.

ROGER AYTOUN of Murieston, W.S., was the eldest son of William Aytoun, W.S., who was the second son of Roger Aytoun of Inchdairnie, in Fifeshire. He was admitted to the Society of Writers to the Signet 8th July 1790, and was Director in Chancery from 1837 until his death, which occurred on 16th March 1843, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. He married on 9th March 1807 Joan, daughter of James Keir of Kinmonth, Perthshire, and sister of the late John Keir of Westfield in this parish ; and he was the father of William Edmonstone Aytoun, author of the *Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers*, and other poems and essays. The lands

of Dressilrig were acquired by this proprietor in 1812, and the estate was by him disposed to trustees, 4th November 1829, by whom it was afterwards conveyed to James Maitland Hog, father of the present Thomas Alexander Hog of Newliston. By this laird the property was again sold in 1854 to John Learmonth of Dean, who, in the year following its acquisition, erected the modern portion of the mansion as well as the present stables and offices. He was succeeded by his son, Lieutenant-Colonel Alexander Learmonth, member of Parliament for Colchester in the Parliaments of 1870 and 1874; and in the year 1878 the estate passed by purchase to James Steel of Murieston, one of the Magistrates of Edinburgh, the present proprietor.

The armorial shield of the Williamsons of that Ilk was a saltire betwixt two mullets in flank, and as many boars' heads in chief and base. Mr Laing gives a seal of Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston, 1610, upon which appears a thistle stalked and leaved, impaling his paternal coat as above, in the same manner as a bishop impales the arms of his See. The thistle was the bearing of the old Lords of St John, and must have been adopted by Mr Williamson as in a sense representing them.

#### DRESSILRIG.

The lands so denominated were in ancient times of considerable extent, embracing the present farm of Dressilrig, formerly called Backstoneford; the lands of Sandygate, which included Newpark and a portion of Bankton; and Wester Dressilrig, *alias* Dyke, which is now incorporated in the property of Westfield.

The lands of Drischelrig and others in the barony of Calder were confirmed by James IV. to Sir James Sandilands of Calder, and Marion Forrester his wife, 17th June 1512. John Aikman in Dresthelrig, was present at an assize of the Barony of Calder, 10th February 1583, and John is still mentioned as occupier of the lands of Dressalrig in 1590; and in 1604, James Aikman in Dreschilrig was protected by the Privy Council. The Aikmans seem to have been long tenants here. The testament of Margaret Walker, sumtyme spous to Johne Aikmane in Drischawrig was confirmed at Edinburgh 15th June 1636;

and David Aikman in Dresseridge, was in 1672 nominated to the eldership. At a somewhat later period the estate was held by Gavin Jamiesone, notary at the Bridgend of Calder, who had a disposition thereof from James, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Christian Primrose, his mother, dated at Calder House 16th October 1704; and he again resigned the property to the same Lord Torphichen in the year 1721. After this the lands of Dresselrig, Sandygate, and Baxtonfoord were conveyed to Andrew Anderson, surgeon in Long Hermiston, by disposition of James, Lord Torphichen, dated 10th August 1737. This gentleman married the Hon. Magdalen Sandilands, daughter of Walter, 6th Lord Torphichen. His testament is dated at Hermistoun 16th February 1763, and contains the disposition of his lands above-designed to his four children, Andrew, James, Elizabeth, and Janet. Andrew was surgeon to the Garrison of the Island of Dominica, and James was physician general at Fort St George, India. Elizabeth, the elder daughter, married first to Andrew Mitchell, linen manufacturer at Livingston, with whom she had David of Mitchilmackinac in the United States, Andrew, physician to the forces at Chatham, and Janet; and secondly (contract dated 1st December 1768), to George Bayne, and had Elizabeth, married to Thomas Morgan, watchmaker in Edinburgh, and Susan, who became the wife of Dr Adam Turnbull of Sandygate. Janet Anderson, the younger daughter, married William Berry, an engraver of some repute of intaglios and heraldic seals, and was mother of Dr Andrew Berry, physician at Fort St George.

The lands of Dressilrig were now divided amongst these heirs-portioners into four equal shares. Elizabeth Anderson died before 1st November 1802, when David Mitchell her son was served heir; and by arrangement in the family her share of the lands descended to Dr Adam Turnbull, the husband of her daughter, Susan Bayne. The remaining three-fourths were inherited jointly by David Mitchell and Andrew Berry, M.D., before-mentioned, who had seisin thereof as heirs of their uncles and of Janet Anderson, 13th February 1811; and by them the property was again disposed to Roger Aytoun, W.S., of Murieston.

James Bruce of Bankton had a disposition from Roger Aytoun on



19th January 1813, of one-fourth of the whole lands, and he subsequently acquired from Dr Turnbull one-third of his portion ; so that of the original lands of Easter Dressilrig and Sandygate one-half is now attached to Murieston, one-third to Bankton, and one-sixth to Newpark.



Fig. 28.—View of Newpark House from S.

#### NEWPARK.

The house of Newpark is pleasantly situated at a distance of rather more than two miles south-west of the village, and in close proximity to the station on the Caledonian Railway to which it has given its name. It was built by Dr Adam Turnbull, in the year 1806, upon the site of the old farm-steading of Sandygate, which is the ancient designation of the lands. The original house, although small, is well built, the date mentioned being carved above the entrance door ; and an extensive addition, with large bay windows, was made to the east side in the year 1871.

The lands of Sandygate were formerly attached to Dressilrig, and were long tenanted by the Aikmans. William Aikman in Sandiegait, in 1585, was decerned to content and pay to Bessie Pottar and John Aikman hir spous, xxx lib. j s. money in compleit payment of the pryse of twa oxin bought be ye said William fra hir at Mertimes 1583, and of the nurtering of ane kow. He is mentioned also in 1586, but was deceased

at 1590, when Malice Hathowie, his widow, appears in a list of tenants in the barony of Calder. Rychard Aikman in Sandygait witnesses a seisin in favour of Andrew Aikman in Yellowstruther, his father, 25th May 1607; and he was in 1622 delaited before the Session for absenting himself from church ordinances. William is mentioned in 1645; John was ordained an elder of the parish church 31st December 1663, and John Aikman in Sandagate still appears in the records in 1672.

In the 18th century Sandygate belonged to the Andersons (see our remarks on Dressilrig at page 175), from the heirs of which family Dr Adam Turnbull acquired one-half of the property in the year 1802. At a subsequent period, he disposed a third part of his share to James Bruce of Bankton, but although thus proprietor of a small proportion only of the lands, he retained the designation Dr Turnbull of Sandygate, the other portions being incorporated in the estates of Murieston and Bankton. Five acres of the lands of Alderston were afterwards added to the property in virtue of a feu disposition by William Bruce of Alderston of 20th October 1827. Dr Turnbull married Susan Bayne (who appears to have been a daughter of George Bayne and Elizabeth Anderson, daughter of Andrew Anderson, M.D., of Dressilrig) with whom he had a son, Dr Adam, who was retoured his heir 27th February 1827. By this gentleman the lands were conveyed on 1st May 1829 to Major William Henry Horsburgh, formerly of the 21st Regiment of Foot, who altered the name to Newpark; Dr Adam Turnbull, younger, and Susan Bayne, his mother, were at the date of the disposition residing as Winton, Macquarrie River, Van Dieman's Land. Major Horsburgh of Newpark was succeeded by his sister, Miss Margaret Horsburgh, who had a charter of adjudication and confirmation of the lands from James, Lord Torphichen's Commissioner, 3rd May 1856. She died in the year 1866, after which the estate was exposed to public sale by order of her testamentary trustees, and was purchased in March 1868 by Francis Watson, who again conveyed it, 18th May 1869, to Mrs Alison Ponton Black or Richardson. Mrs Richardson of Newpark was a daughter of Adam Black, M.P. for Edinburgh, founder of the eminent firm of publishers, Messrs Adam and Charles Black, and widow of James Richardson, merchant in Edinburgh. Her eldest son is

Ralph Richardson, writer to the Signet, the property of Newpark having descended by family arrangement to the second son, Adam Black Richardson of Newpark, the present proprietor.

#### PUMPHERSTON.

The estate of Pumpherston, though now the centre of a large industrial population, was at one time the seat of a knightly and baronial residence of considerable strength and proportions. In his account of the parish, in 1838, the Rev. Dr Sommers refers to Pumpherston Castle as a work of great antiquity, and says it had long been in ruins, and had lately been entirely removed. This erection is marked in Blaeu's Atlas, 1662, and formerly stood in a field of about 15 acres in extent, east of the present farm-steading, which is still surrounded by a park wall of stone and lime. The south-east corner of this field, although now cultivated by the plough alone, has always possessed a marked degree of fertility, and is regarded as the garden land of the old castle. A dove-cot formerly stood within the same enclosure, in front of the farm-house, and an ancient keep or look-out tower occupied a situation at the top of the bank rising from the river Almond. The northern portion of the lands were brought into cultivation only during the last forty-five years, previous to which time they presented to the view a wild, yet picturesque tract of country, denominated Pumpherston Moor. But the yellow whins which blossomed there so gaily in the early part of the present century have given place to oil works, and shale-heaps and workmen's cottages; and the parish has witnessed the growth and establishment during the last ten years of a village, possessed of its own School-house, Literary Institute, and other organisations, and whose inhabitants now out-number those of Mid-Calder itself. The cultivated portion of the lands was formerly divided into as many as five different holdings, each with its own steading, called respectively the dominical lands or Mains of Pumpherston; Forth of Pumpherston; Backside of Pumpherston; Muirhouse of Pumpherston; and the Miln and Miln lands of Pumpherston. The remains of these various buildings were observable some fifty years ago. On the northern portion of the lands are some large

whin-stone boulders, which have received the name of Ballengeich, in relation, it is said, to the sobriquet of James V.—“the gudeman of Ballengeich”—who often visited the spot when hunting in Drumshoreland Moor. The word is Celtic, signifying “face to the wind,” and it has been most appropriately, though perhaps unwittingly, adopted as the name of a modern villa, recently erected on the lands of Pumpherston. The name of the estate is usually written Pumfrastoun in documents of the 15th and 16th centuries, and the designation appears to have been derived from one of the surname of Pomfray, who may at one time have possessed the lands. A family of that name was certainly connected with the locality in olden days,—for John Pomfray, burgess of Linlithgow, was allowed custom for his wool in 1405; and on 3 July 1587, Gawin Sandelandis was decerned to permit Jonet Pumphray spous of Jon Sandelandis, to have ye pasturage of twa ky on the lands of Nayr Craig.

On 4th July 1489, James Dowglace of Awdestoune had a charter from William, Lord Grahame, confirming to him and his heirs and assigns the lands of Pumfrastoun in the barony of Caldore, together with those of Clyftoun and Clyftounhall in Linlithgowshire, Robert Dowglace of Lochlevin being a witness.

ROBERT DOUGLAS of Pumfrastoun witnesses at Calder a charter of John Sandilands, fiar of Calder, in 1539. The same Robert was on an assize 26th February 1534; he is mentioned as joint occupier with Peter Hamilton and John Lochcotis, of the church lands of Levingstoun, in a charter of the same by Mr Richard Bothuile, Provost of the Collegiate Church of Our Lady of Camps, 10th April 1543; and twelve days later Rob. Douglas de Punfrastoun witnesses a charter of James, Earl of Morton. On 29th March 1546 he acted himself caution to the Privy Council that John Sandilands, younger of Calder, should enter within the Castle of Edinburgh when charged thereto, within the space of twenty-four hours. He is stated to have married a lady of the Marjoribanks family, and he appears to have had several sons. Thus in 1562 Johne Dowglas of Pumpherstoun made complaint to the Assembly of the Church, on behalf of the parishioners of Calder, that they are defrauded of the preaching of the word by the appointment of their minister to be

superintendent of Lothian. Twelve years later, namely in 1574, "James Dowglas, sone to umquhile Robert Dowglas of Pumphrastoun," is mentioned in connection with a tack of the lands of Halkerston's Croft; and in 1579, James Dowglas, designed "of Pumphrestoun," is servitor to James, Earl of Mortoun, High Admiral of Scotland. In the year following,

JOSEPH DOUGLAS of Pumphrastoun witnesses at Aberdour a charter of the same Earl, 6th August 1580. This Joseph was laird for many years, and was a redoubtable personage withal. He married in 1574, Mary, daughter of John Sandilands of Calder (who was still living in the year 1628), and he was one of the curators of the minor Lord Torphichen, in which capacity he assents to the marriage of his ward in 1595. His name appears somewhat frequently in documents to which we have had access relating to the closing years of the 16th century. Thus, in 1590, Eupham M'Calyean, only daughter of Mr Thomas M'Calyean of Cliftounhall, Provost of Edinburgh in 1561, was executed for witchcraft, part of the indictment against her being that she had consulted with Jonett Cwninghame, in the Cannogait, alias callit Lady Bothwell, ane auld indytit wich of the fynest stamp, eighteen zeiris syne or thairby, for to haif poysonit Joseph Dowglas of Punfrastoun, be ane potioun of composit watter in ane chopin stoup. Joseph was caution in £1000 for Patrick Hume of Aytoun that he should enter before the Privy Council on 10th November 1591 to answer to a charge against him touching the violent taking of certain teind sheaves of the parsonage of Duns.

1591, *March* 24—Complaint by Dorothy, Countess of Gowry, against various Douglasses and others, including John Inglis, servitour to the Laird of Pumpharstoun, that they, with convocation of the lieges to the nummer of ane hundreth persons, all bodin in feir of weir, had come upon 29th May last to the complainer's lands of Leithhead, quhair maliciouslie thay rased fyre and brint and distroyit ane grite quantitie of turffis cassin be her servandis upon her saidis landis. The accused persons were denounced rebels.

The laird of Pumpherstoun is included in a list of gentlemen of the name of Douglas who bear evil will against Andro, Lord Stewart of Uchiltrie, on account of the slaughter of James, Lord Torthorwald; and the Privy Council being determined that "all unlauchfull revenge so dishonourable to the natioun and offensive to his Heynes salbe forborne,"

Pumpherstons and Uchiltree are required to enter into reciprocal assurances in £1000 to keep the peace towards each other, 2nd March 1609. Joseph Douglas of Pumpherston was on an assize 20th December 1616, and in 1636 he witnesses the baptism of his grand-daughter Margaret Douglas. His latter will is dated at Cliftounhall 23rd April 1637, and he died within the same year. He had a son, William, who succeeded him; another son, Mr Hew, who witnesses a deed at Cliftounhall 31st January 1623; a daughter, Jean, married to Mr Robert Dalgleish of Lauriston, solicitor to Charles II, whose only child, Margaret, married in 1662 to Ludovick Craig of Riccarton; and a second daughter, Margaret, who married (contract dated 12th October 1626) George Ker, burgess of Edinburgh.

We observe a George Douglas of Pumpherston, whose position in the family tree does not seem to be well defined. He was appointed a Commissioner of the Peace for Linlithgowshire 6th November 1610, and acts in that capacity in 1615 and 1616; but although on these occasions he is styled "of Pumpherstoun," he appears to have been a younger son either of Joseph or the preceding laird.

WILLIAM DOUGLAS of Pumpherston, who succeeded his father, Joseph, is first mentioned in 1609. In that year commenced the *Plantation of Ulster* with Scots colonists, an event referred to by Hallam as "perhaps on the whole the most important in the constitutional history of Ireland, and that from which the present scheme of society in that country is chiefly to be deduced." King James declares the northern portion of that kingdom "now by his royall armyis fred and disburdynit of the former rebellious and disobedient inhabitants thair of, who in the justice of God to their schame and confusioun ar overthrawn." And although there be many obedient subjects in England who would gladly proceed with their families to that kingdom, "yet hes sacred Majestie out of his unspeikable love and tendir affectioun toward his antient and native subjectis" has invited applications for grants of land from the nobility and gentry of Scotland. Seventy-seven, whose names are all in the Privy Council register, were enrolled in June 1609, as the first Scots colonists in Ulster, amongst whom William Douglass, son to Joseph

Douglass of Pumpharstoun, is entered for 2000 acres. Unlike many who proceeded to the north of Ireland at this time, it is evident that the young laird of Pumpherston did not settle there. On 14th January 1614, William Dowglas, younger of Pumphrastoun, was on an assize in Scotland, and two years later there is a complaint to the Privy Council by Johnne Wricht at the Bridgend of Calder, as follows:—

1616, *November 12*—On 5th October last, William Douglas of Pomphreston who has conceived a deadlie hatred against the pursuer, came with a baton in his hand, to the back of complainer's house, and chased him into his house. On 7th October, the said defender came armed under cloud of night, to the house at the Bridgend, where the pursuer was sitting before the fire. The said William, who was "disaguysit with a blew bonnett on his head, and a cloke about his mouthe," entered before the pursuer was aware, and committed a fierce assault upon him with a squared baton. He left pursuer for dead, and "trampit his wyff and bairnis under his feitt." The Lords, finding the latter assault proved, order him to pay £40 to the pursuer, a fine of 40 merks to the Crown, and to remain in ward until these sums be paid.

The Laird of Pumpherston was twice married ; first to Mary, daughter and heir of Gilbert, 8th Lord Somerville, relict of James, 2nd Lord Torphichen, by whom he had a son, Sir Joseph of Pumpherston. Secondly, he married Isobel Ewart, daughter of Ewart of Bodspeck, who bore him a son, James, who ultimately succeeded, and six daughters, namely, Elizabeth, married first to James Tweedie, merchant in Edinburgh, who died before 1658, and secondly to Mr Patrick Darg, minister of Fordice, and left an only child, Elizabeth Darg, heir-general of her mother and of her uncle James Douglas of Pomphristoun, 2nd December 1697 ; Isobel, baptized 9th October 1634, married Patrick Graham, younger, burgess of Edinburgh ; Margaret, baptized 12th April 1636, married Mr Andro M'Ghie ; Janet, baptized 26th December 1637 ; Jeane, baptized 2nd May 1645 ; and Helene — which daughters were all living in 1658. Isobell Ewart, spous to William Douglas of Pumpherston, was cited to appear before the Kirk-Session, 22nd September 1644, for scolding and railing against the Session, and was charged also with having said there was four hundreth merkis gott in fra the witches, and that the Sessioun leived thairupon. This she denied, but said the minister had done many

things behind folks backis which he durst not do befor thair faces. She appealed to the Presbytery of Linlithgow.

SIR JOSEPH DOUGLAS of Pumpherston, the elder son of the last-mentioned, appears to have become possessed of the fee of the estate about the period of his father's second marriage, as he is designed "of Pumpherstoun" as early as 1644, although his father was still living in 1673. On 31st December 1647, he had a precept furth of Chancery under testimony of the Great Seal of the lands of Pumpherston, with manor place, etc., in the barony of Calder, and on 9th March 1648 he had also a charter from Francis, Earl of Buccleuch, of the east half of the lands of Ormestoun, with mansion and manor place, the west half of the lands of Mortoun and others in that district. There is also an Act of Parliament of Charles I. disposing the teinds, personage and viccarage of ye east kirke and parochine of Calder, called Caldercleire, to his lovit Sr Joseph Douglas of Pumpherstoun, and his heirs, 29th July 1644. He was on a Committee of War for Linlithgowshire in 1646 and 1647; was Lieutenant Colonel of a Regiment of Foot in 1650; and Commissioner of Supply in 1655, 1656, and 1659. Sir Joseph Douglas was drowned when coming down to Scotland from London with the Duke of York in the year 1682; and as he left no issue, the succession passed to his half-brother

JAMES DOUGLAS of Pumpherston, the second son of William Douglas of the same, before-mentioned. On 21st November 1672 this laird had a charter of the kirklands of Levingstoun, called Canieland, in the shire of Linlithgow, reserving the liferent thereof to his said father, and to Isobel Euart, his mother, and it is worthy of remark that the old laird could not at this date have been less than eighty years of age. James had a disposition of the lands of Pumpherston, Knightsrig, and Canielands from Walter, Lord Torphichen, 7th May 1679, in which he is styled James Douglas of Knightsrig (Dechmont Law). He was Commissioner of Supply in the year 1686, and Commissioner for the Militia in 1689, and he was still living at 12th June 1696, when he gave an annual rent of £160 out of his lands of Pumpherston and Knightsrig to Mr James Henrysone of Pittadro, W.S. He was deceased before 5th July 1697.

We thus witness the extinction of the male line of the race of Douglas



of Pumpherston, which, for upwards of two centuries at least had kept possession of their patrimonial lands. After the death of James Douglas, the last laird, the estate passed by purchase to

ALEXANDER HAMILTON, bailie of Strathbrock (now Uphall), who acquired the various rights of Isobel, Margaret, and Janet Douglas, and Elizabeth Darg, the four heirs-portioners of the deceased James Douglas of Pumpherston, as well as certain other encumbrances affecting the lands, between 1698 and 1701. He did not, however, long enjoy his acquisition, but died prior to 30th April 1703, when John Hamilton, his son, was retoured his heir.

JOHN HAMILTON of Pumpherston had a charter of the estate from James, Marquis of Montrose, as eldest son of the late Alexander Hamilton, bailie of Broxburn *alias* Strathbrock, to him, and to Alexander, his eldest son, procreate betwixt him and Elizabeth Oswald, his spouse, in liferent and fee respectively, dated at Edinburgh, 2nd September 1704. He died on 11th December 1739, having had several children, namely, Alexander, who succeeded him; Archibald, who pre-deceased his father; David, to whom his brothers and sisters were served heirs-portioners, 26th April 1744; James, born 13th January 1708; John; Julian; and Christian.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON of Pumpherston was seized of the estate upon his contract of marriage (which is dated 25th February 1727) with Margaret Cochran, eldest daughter of the deceased Alexander Cochran of Barbachlaw, and sister-german to Alexander Cochran then of Barbachlaw, with consent of James Cochran, merchant in Edinburgh, uncle of the bride, and her guardian during the absence furth of the realm of the said laird of Barbachlaw. Alexander Hamilton, who was then "younger of Pumpherston," with consent of his father, binds himself to infest his future spouse in an annuity of 600 merks out of the estate. This was the laird's first wife, and the mother of his eldest son, John Hamilton. He subsequently married Jean Houstoun, who had a similar provision of 600 merks annually on 24th August 1732, and with whom he had two other children. He died in the month of February 1742, Jean Houston, his relict spouse, being decerned only executrix to him, and Andrew Houstoun of Calderhall is cautioner in the registration of his testament.

At a somewhat later period the estate of Pumpherston came into the possession of the Hopetoun family. There is a charter under the Great Seal, 6th August 1770, in favour of John, Earl of Hopetoun, of the lands of Pumpherston, comprehending that small piece of land called Parknuick of Pumpherston, the Mains of Pumpherston, Muirhouse, Backside, Mill and Mill lands, and Bankhead, etc. This proprietor died in the year 1781, when he was succeeded in this and other estates by his eldest son, James, 3rd Earl of Hopetoun, who, on 21st May 1803, conveyed the lands of Pumpherston to

HON. HENRY ERSKINE of Almondell. This gentleman was a younger son of Henry David, 10th Earl of Buchan, and father of the 12th Earl. He was born 1st November 1746, and being called to the Scottish bar in 1768, soon attained to the highest eminence as a lawyer. On the accession of Rockingham's administration in 1783, he was appointed king's advocate, but retired in the same year, on the opposite political party coming into power. In 1786 he was elected Dean of the Faculty of Advocates, and on the return of the Whig party to office in 1806, he again became Lord Advocate, and member of parliament for the Dumfries burghs; and he died at Almondell House, 8th October 1817, in the seventy-first year of his age. There exists a bust of Mr Erskine from the chisel of Turnerelli, and also a portrait by Sir Henry Raeburn. After his decease the property was disposed by the trustees acting under his testamentary settlement to his elder brother, David Steuart, Earl of Buchan, who had seisin thereof on a disposition by the executors of the late Henry Erskine of Almondell, on 10th June 1822. This was the 11th Earl, the well-known and accomplished patron of literature, and on his death, without issue, in 1829, his title descended to his nephew, Henry David Erskine, son of Lord Advocate Erskine, the previous proprietor of Pumpherston. The title of the Pumpherston estate, however, continued to vest in the trustees of the late Earl of Buchan until the year 1842, when the property was sold by them to Peter M'Lagan of Calderbank.

By this proprietor and by his son very extensive agricultural improvements have been made, the effect of which has been a very large increase in the rental of the estate, and in the means of employment for the people.

"The lands were about three-fifths cultivated and under cultivation," writes the present Mr M'Lagan, "but in very bad condition, and greatly in want of improvements, and two-fifths partially and wholly uncultivated. The improvement of the three-fifths was commenced about 1847-8, by draining, liming, manuring and deep-ploughing, the effect of which was marked not only by the production of larger crops but by their earlier maturity, so that the harvest was about a fortnight earlier than it used to be. A part of the two-fifths had been cultivated during the wars of Napoleon, when the price of wheat was very high. But when prices fell after that, they were allowed to go out of cultivation and were soon overgrown with furze, broom, heath and rushes; the other part was never under cultivation. By 1862 the whole was planted and converted into arable land by drainage and other improvements."

Peter M'Lagan of Pumpherston, senior, died on the 11th April 1860, and was succeeded by his son, Peter M'Lagan, M.P., of Pumpherston, who for eight and twenty years has represented the county of Linlithgow in parliament.

THE ARMS of Douglas of Pumpherston were: Ermine, on a chief azure three mullets, which is cut on a stone at Lauriston Castle, about 1655, as the coat of Jean, daughter of Joseph Douglas of Pumpherston, impaled with that of her husband, Mr Robert Dalglish of Lauriston; and the legend

**ROBERT DALGLISH JEAN DOUGLAS  
GOD'S GREAT AND HE IS AL OUR BLISS.**

#### WESTFIELD.

The small mansion-house of Westfield is situated in a delightfully secluded and well-wooded part of the parish, although it possesses the advantage of being within a mile of Newpark railway station. The original portion of the structure consists of a rectangular block of unpretending dimensions, to the ends of which large wings have at a later period been added, with roofs set in the transverse direction to the main-roof, the gable ends of these wings projecting in front of the original elevation. A trellis-work verandah has recently been constructed in front of the house, enhancing its rustic and picturesque effect. This was an addition made by the Rev. William B. Robertson, D.D., long minister at Irvine, a

distinguished divine of the United Presbyterian Church, who for about five years previous to his death in 1886 had his residence at Westfield House under lease from his friend Dr. Young of Kelly. The Reverend Doctor describes the place as "my sylvan hermitage, my cell in the forest, my Bettws-y-coed or cloister in the woods—to which I have retired from the world, only emerging now and then, like a dominican of the Frati Predicatori, to preach."

The present designation of the property is not older than the middle of last century, and it appears to have originated with Commissioner West,



Fig. 29.—View of Westfield House from S W.

the proprietor at that period, by whom also the original portion of the building may have been erected. The ancient name is Dyke, or Wester Dressilrig, with which certain other small parcels of ground as Thorn, part of Muirhouse of Yellowstruther, and other portions of the barony of Alderston have been incorporated. The house of "Dykes" is marked in Blaeu's map of the locality, published in 1662, and appears to have occupied the same position as the present mansion.

The lands were held in the 16th century by the Williamsons of that Ilk from the baron of Calder. Johnne Aikman in Wester Dryschelrig is mentioned in 1586 and 1590; and in 1602 Mr Robert Williamsoun of Murestoun, writer, grants an annual rent of sixty merks out of the 40s.

land of Dressilrig *alias* Dyk in the barony of Calder Comitis to Andrew Aikman in Zallowstruther and Agnes Williamsoun his spouse, dated at Murestoun Castle 10th May 1602. The 40s. land of Wester Dreshelrig called the Dyik is also embraced in a contract between Mr Robert Williamson and John Hamilton, apothecary, burgess of Edinburgh, of date 18th December 1619. At a later period the lands formed part of the possessions of the Muirheads of Linhouse; and on 17th December 1701 Mr John Mitchell of Alderston had a disposition of Dyke *alias* Wester Dressilrig from James, Lord Torphichen, with consent of Christian Primrose, his mother and curatrix. For this proprietor the lands were, with others, disjoined from the barony of Calder and annexed to that of Alderston by Crown charter dated 9th February 1709. James Somervell was vassal in 1717 and he altered the name of the estate to "Castle Somervell." He was married at Mid-Calder in the month of December 1717, to Ann Chapman, daughter of the deceased Mr Thomas Chapman, bailie of Dunning, Perthshire. There is a resignation by him dated 4th May 1720, in favour of Mr John Mitchell, his immediate lawful superior, wherein the property is described as the lands of Castle Somervell, formerly called Dyke or Wester Dressilrig, lying in the parish of Mid-Calder and barony of Alderston. The lands are mentioned by their original name, amongst others conveyed by the Mitchells to John Bell of Alderston 29th March 1738; and they continued in the possession of the succeeding lairds or barons of Alderston until after 1750.

JOHN WEST, one of the Commissioners of Customs for Scotland, next acquired the estate, to which he gave the name of Westfield, by which the property has since been designated. He was deceased in 1772, when Captain John West, his eldest son, had a precept of *Clare Constat* as heir of his said father of the lands of Dyke, Muirhouse of Yellowstruther, etc., with the mansion-house, "all now called Westfield, in the parish of Mid-Calder." The precept is dated at Newington, near Edinburgh, 24th March 1772, and seisin was given on 1st April following, Robert Hamilton of Limefield being a witness. By this heir the property was sold to Theodore Alexander, who added to the estate the lands of Thorn, and three acres of the lands of Yellowstruther, contiguous thereto, which he

acquired by disposition from James Gartshore of Alderston, dated 25th August 1774. The same instrument declares the lands of Westfield now free from all multure dues and thirlage to the miln of Alderston, called Adinbrae miln. Theodore Alexander of Westfield died at Grenada in the year 1776, having made a settlement of the estate in favour of Mrs Katherine Bryce, his spouse, and the children of their marriage, if any, failing which to his said spouse absolutely. There being no descendants, the property was exposed to public sale by direction of Mrs Katherine Bryce, and was purchased by Donald Cameron, merchant in Newcastle, whose seisin took place on 15th August 1779. Donald Cameron of Westfield, on 30th January 1782, set that portion of the estate called Muirhouse of Yellowstruther in feu disposition to James Bauchope, for the payment of six pennies Scots, and this has remained a separate property since that time. In the same year he disposed his lands of Westfield to James Murison of Dunbrae in liferent, and George Murison, his son, in fee, who were seized on 28th November 1782. James Murison of Dunbrae and Westfield died 8th June 1803, and his widow, Henrietta Guild, died on 7th April 1816, both being buried at Mid-Calder parish churchyard. His son and heir, Major George Murison of Westfield, was an officer in the 48th Regiment of Foot; and by him the property was in November 1805 conveyed to Captain Alexander Forbes, late of the 44th Regiment. Capt. Forbes was laird of Westfield for about twenty years, and he again sold the estate in 1825 to John Keir, proprietor of the adjoining lands of Wester Murieston. Mr Keir had seisin of this property on 6th January 1826. He married in 1830, Elizabeth M. Malcolm, of the family of Malcolm of Portalloch, and his armorial coat, impaling that of his wife, is cut upon the gable end of the office buildings, with the date 1839. The Keir shield is Argent, a cross engrailed sable cantoned of four roses. This laird died without children, and was succeeded in the united estate of Westfield and Wester Murieston by his nephew, William Edmonstone Aytoun, the distinguished Professor of Rhetoric at Edinburgh University, and author of the *Lays of the Scottish Cavaliers*, etc., by whom the property was sold. The purchaser was James Frederick Wilkie, S.S.C., a solicitor in practice in Edinburgh, who held the lands until 1864, when

Dr James Young of Kelly, the proprietor of the neighbouring property of Limefield, bought this estate.

Certainly no individual during the whole period of our history can be said to have exercised so extensive an influence over the future destinies and characteristics of the district as Dr Young. Having early turned his attention to analytical and experimental chemistry, he was consulted, in the year 1847, by the present Lord Playfair (then Dr Lyon Playfair) upon the subject of a natural oil which exuded from the workings of a coal mine at Alfreton in Derbyshire. This product he found to be petroleum, and capable of being rendered by distillation into a useful lubricant for machinery; and under his direction a refinery was started at Alfreton, and the work successfully carried on for a time, until the supply of oil in the mine was exhausted. Dr Young next commenced researches with a view to compelling by process of manufacture that which nature had produced in this particular locality; and the result of his investigations was that, on 17th October 1850, he obtained a patent for extracting from coal an oil which, in addition to other advantages, should possess a high illuminating power. So came into existence the article called paraffine, which is now so extensively used all over the world. The first works in this country were started at Bathgate in 1850, coal being the mineral from which the oil was distilled, and this manufacture was carried on by Dr Young, Edward Meldrum, and E. W. Binny, as co-partners, until the expiration of the patent in 1864. It was then found that the extent of the seam of Boghead coal at Bathgate was limited, and experiments were made upon other oil-yielding materials. The shales in this district having been found to give satisfactory results, Dr Young, who had previously bought the lands of Addiewell in West Calder parish, erected thereon the Addiewell Oil Works, the foundation-stone of which was laid by his intimate friend, Dr David Livingstone, 9th August 1864. These works he sold to the Young's Paraffin Light and Mineral Oil Company on 1st January 1866, since which time Addiewell has continued to be the chief seat of the Oil Industry in Scotland.

Dr Young was a Justice of Peace and Deputy Lieutenant for Kincardineshire. He had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred upon him by the St. Andrews University; was President of the Andersonian College

in Glasgow; a Fellow of the Royal Society, and of various other learned institutions. He died on 13th May 1883, in the 72nd year of his age, and was succeeded in the property of Westfield by his eldest daughter, Mrs Mary Ann Young, wife of James Walker. His other children were James Young of Kelly, who died unmarried in 1886, and is buried beside his father and mother at Inverkip Churchyard; John Young of Addiewell; Thomas Graham Young; Annette, second daughter, who married James Aitken, now of Torr; Eliza, married to R. Wilson Thom, younger of Barremmen; and Agnes, who became the wife of James Edward Stoddart of Howden in this parish, a nephew of the late Edward Meldrum of Dechmont.

#### WESTER MURIELSTON.

The lands of Wester Murieston, lying to the south of Westfield, were attached to the estate at the commencement of the present century. In their early history it is a little difficult to distinguish these lands from those of Easter Murieston, as both were held by the same proprietors, and Murieston Castle was doubtless the seat of the whole estate. On 27 February 1559, there is a charter by John Sandilands fear of Calder, setting in feu-ferme to James Cochran, his servitor, his heirs and assigns, all and sundrie the lands of Breidschall, Annottis-croce and Wester Muirestoun, under yearly payment of xij merks money and doing the Laird faithful and thankful service quhen requirit be auctoritie for defense of the realm against the enemies thereof allanerlie. The lands of Easter and Wester Murieston, with tower and fortalice thereon, are comprised in some wadset transactions by Mr Robert Williamson of Murieston in the year 1620; and in 1628 the lands of Easter, Wester and Middle Murieston, with ten acres of moor called the West Moor of Calder, were disposed by the Williamson family to William Ross of Torphin, thereafter of Murieston. On 20th July 1693 there is a disposition of "Muirstoun Dyke-neuck and Wester Muirstoun" by Walter, Lord Torphichen, in favour of Thomas Clerkson of Cousland and Sibilla Matthiesone, his spouse in life-rent, and William and Thomas Clerkson, their sons, equally betwixt them in fee, by which proprietors the lands were again conveyed to Andrew Marjoribanks of Balbardie, by disposition dated at Livingston kirk, 22nd



April 1703. William Clerkson in Moorhousetoun was admitted to the eldership of the parish in 1699. In 1709 the same lands were in the possession of John Weir, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh, who, by his wife Isabell M'Ala, had two daughters, namely Elizabeth, married to James Donaldson, merchant, burgess of Edinburgh; and Jean. Then, on 23rd September 1709 John Weir of [Wester] Murieston made a disposition of the lands to Alexander Weir, burgess of the Canongate, and Janet Weir, his spouse, in liferent, and to David Weir, their son, in fee, whom failing to Marion Weir, sister of the said Alexander, and her heirs. Alexander died before 1721, and in the year following David Weir of [Wester] Muiristoun conveyed the lands to James Grahame, indweller in Muiristoun, the date of whose seisin is 19th January 1722. The next notice of the property is at 29th November 1751, when Agnes Grahame, only daughter of the late James Grahame, of Wester Muristoun, and spouse of Thomas Grahame, tenant in Seafield of Blackburn, obtained a charter of the lands under the Great Seal, upon her own resignation. This proprietor executed a settlement of the estate in 1753 upon Thomas Graham, her said husband, in liferent and James Grahame, her eldest son, in fee, whom failing to Thomas her second son, then to other heirs male to be born, failing which to Christian or Margaret, her daughters, or other heirs female, the elder daughter secluding her younger sisters, and succeeding without division. The property descended in virtue of this provision to James Grahame, the eldest son, who was laird in 1782, but died previous to 31st March 1798, when Christian Grahame, his sister, was retoured his heir. She was married to James Scott, tenant in Muirhouse of Libberton, and on 2nd June 1798 she obtained a Crown charter of Muiristoun, Dykeneuck, and Wester Muiristoun. In 1809, Thomas Scott, farmer in Westmains, was seized of the lands on a disposition from Christian Grahame of Wester Murieston, his mother; and by him the property was conveyed on 8th November 1813 to George Bell of Lasswade Park. He was in turn succeeded by William Bell, sometime of the Island of Guernsey, paymaster of H. M. 31st Regiment of Foot.

John Keir of Green Street, Enfield Highway, in the county of Middlesex, son of James Keir of Kinmont, Perthshire, was the next proprietor who acquired the estate upon a disposition by William Bell

above-designed, dated 15th October 1819, and the lands since 1825 have been united to the property of Westfield.

The old Castle of Murieston having become a total ruin, Mr Keir, very shortly after his acquisition of the lands, rebuilt a small portion of it, as a ruin, which presents an exceedingly picturesque appearance. But although a portion of the original stones has been used, the treatment has evidently gone far beyond the limits of *bona fide* restoration.

## YELLOWSTRUTHER.

Yellowstruther is the name now given to a small collection of cottages lying to the south of the village of Bellsquarry, but it appears in olden times to have designated a somewhat larger portion of ground in that district, the precise extent or limitations of which cannot now be determined. During the whole period of our ascertained history, it has been a point of habitation, and it was long held by the family of Aikman, the members of which figure so largely in the records of the parish.

Andro Aikman in Zallowstrud was bound to attend the baron of Calder at Wappinschaw displays, in 1586, and his name appears in a list of tenants in the tierce lands of the barony in 1590. On 17th October 1610 he had a disposition of the lands of Zallowstruther from James, Lord Torphichen, to him and Agnes Williamesone his spouse, and to Richard Aikman their son, under reversion of 650 merks. He died in the year 1612, and Agnes Williamesone, his widow, died 15th December 1613, mentioning in her will Richard, George, and John Aikman, her sons, and John Auld and Abraham Stevinsone, her sons-in-law. He was succeeded by Richard, the eldest son, who married Christian Fairholme, and died on 10th November 1626, leaving James, Andrew, Thomas, George, Isobel and Helen Aikmans, sons and daughters. James Aikman in Zallowstruther, the eldest son, renounced the disposition above referred to in favour of John, Lord Torphichen, 21st January 1647. At this time Christian Fairholme, mother of the said James, was the spouse of David Newtoun. David Newtoun in the Yeallow Struther offered caution to the Session in 1644 that he should satisfy the kirk in all things to be enjoynit to him.

On 9th November 1695 the lands of Yellowstruther, with the pendicles of the same called Quarrell and Muirhouse, were disposed by Walter, Lord Torphichen to Mr John Mitchell of Alderston, for whom they were disjoined by Royal charter from the barony of Calder and incorporated in the barony of Alderston at that time created. The pendicle called the Muirhouse of Yellowstruther was alienated by James Gartshore of Alderston, and was attached to the property of Westfield until 1782 when Donald Cameron of Westfield set the lands in feu disposition to James Bauchope of Muirhouse. Other portions of Yellowstruther have since been set in feu to various persons.



Fig. 30.—View of Murieston Castle from N W.

#### CHAPTER IV.

### The Parish Church.

**H**ISTORY informs us of the existence of a religious establishment at Calder Comitis, in the patronage of the Earls of Fife, as early as the middle of the 12th century; and we are probably not wrong in regarding our church as originally one of David I.'s numerous foundations. Grants were made by Duncan, Earl of Fife, and Ela, his countess, for the welfare of their souls, of the church of Kaledour with certain lands and pertinents to the abbey of Dunfermline, *anno* 1150-1165. No part of the present fabric is of that date, but it seems certain that the erection, which was constructed in the 16th century, has been rebuilt upon the site of the ancient church of Kaledour. The latter was probably of larger dimensions than the structure which has replaced it, for the foundations of walls have at various times been dug up in the burial ground on the west side of the church; and it would seem also that the ancient building was upon a lower level, or else that vaults have existed beneath the church, as an iron rod, when forced down through the floor in different places, was obstructed by some hard and apparently stony substance at a uniform distance of from three to four feet below the surface. The re-building was undertaken by the Rev. Peter Sandilands, who held the cure of the parish in 1526 and until his death, subsequent to 1546. It is to this ecclesiastic, who was a younger son of Sir James Sandilands, the 5th baron, that we owe the present church of Mid-Calder. On 30th January 1541, being then an aged man, and apprehensive that he might not live to complete the work he had commenced, Mr Peter Sandilands entered into a bond with his nephew, Sir James Sandilands of Calder, by which the latter, in consideration of the sum of 1600 merks paid to him be ane venerabill clerk Maister Peter

Sandelandis his fader bruder came under obligation to his said uncle "to build and complete the vestry on the east gable of the choir, and the remainder of the said choir to be ended of the length and wideness *as it is founded*," the height to be 32 feet. "And the south three lights [windows] in the side wall of the said choir, betwixt four buttresses, to rise *as they are founded*, as high as they may be had." There is a "turn-egres" or spiral stair at the west of the north wall noted to be taken away, from which specifications it is apparent that the building then to be erected was to be raised upon the foundations of a previous structure. Minute directions are embodied in the deed for the entire work, which contemplates an edifice much larger and more magnificent than we now possess,—scarcely half the design having been carried into execution. The north wall was to rise 16 feet in height as it is founded of "rouch werk" with corbells and water table or weather moulding on the outer part thereof, for the construction of a cloister on the north side of the choir; and thence upwards, corresponding to the height of the choir walls, of dressed stone, the whole to be covered in with "croce-brace and rinruif," or groined vaulting "conform to St. Anthonis yle in sanct Gelis Kirk." At the west end, a steeple is provided to be raised six feet above the choir with an "orlaje hand" and bell, and approached by a commodious turning stair.

Provision is also made for a nave of four bays, 27 ft. longer and 5 ft wider than the choir, the walls of which were to be 26 ft. high and 4 ft. in thickness, with four buttresses and four square-lintelled windows in the south wall, and a large pointed window twelve feet wide in the west gable. To this church access was to be obtained by a door and plain porch between two of the buttresses on the south wall. The altar in the chancel is appointed to be built of ashlar stone, and approached by steps of mason work; with two receptacles for "halie wattir, weill hewin to the said kirk and queir." Three years are allowed for the completion of the choir, and a further like period for "the big kirk."

Mr Peter Sandilands died about the year 1547, by which time the Reformation had made considerable progress, one necessary result of which was a temporary cessation of all ecclesiastical building; and as Mid-Calder may claim to have played a somewhat prominent part in the changes of this eventful period, so her church stood, a memorial, during

three centuries, in a conspicuously incomplete state, just as it was left by the advent of the Reformation.

The work at first, however, progressed according to the directions. The "revestrie" was completed at the eastern end of the edifice, and the walls of the choir or chancel itself carried up to the full height with the windows and buttresses as specified. The north wall corresponds exactly with the specification as regards the dressed stone on the upper portion, and the rough mason-work below, whilst the corbells which should carry the roof of the proposed side-aisle or chantry have been prepared and set in position, where they still remain (see Fig. 35), though this portion of the design was never executed. The nave or big kirk was not built, and the steeple and belfry, if carried out at all at this time, could scarcely have been in accordance with the original intention. The stone vaulting which the chancel should possess seems not to have been carried beyond a few courses above the carved springing corbells, and a less permanent form of roof adopted. The only door of the original work still remains on the south side of the structure; it is circular-

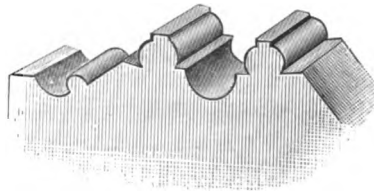


Fig. 31.—Detail of jambs, circular-headed door.

headed, with two orders of the roll and fillet pattern, and a hood moulding contrived in the form of a string course which runs along the south elevation, breaking around each buttress and forming a cill-course to the windows. The adoption of this semi-circular type of arch in a gothic building is a peculiarity often noticed, but in Scotland round-headed doorways are found in buildings of all periods; the door is constructed and grouped with the adjoining window in a most natural, unaffected manner. The choir is enlightened on the south by three large windows with plain jambs of two orders, occupying the three bays between the buttresses, and exhibiting elegant specimens of gothic tracery of the unfoliated loop type, each window being comprised in a moulded hood with heraldic devices carved at the terminations. At the western window the arms of Douglas and of Sir James Sandilands uphold the moulding, the three stars of Douglas appearing on a fesse, and not on a chief as latterly, and the heart uncrowned, as in all ancient delineations. The arms of

the Knight of Calder are depicted in an unusual manner, the fesse charged with one star being placed in the second quarter and the heart occupying the third. On the next window we have on the one side a shield exhibiting a fesse chequy with a cross in chief, the armorials of Sir Walter Lindsay, Lord St John, the immediate predecessor of Sir James Sandilands in the preceptorate of Torphichen, the presence of whose arms may indicate his having contributed to the cost of the erection\*; and upon the other side of the same window appear the arms and initials of Mr Peter Sandilands, namely,—Quarterly, 1st and 4th a bend for Sandilands, 2nd and 3rd a fesse charged with three mullets and a heart in base for Douglas. At the extremities of the moulded hood of the third window are carved the shields of the two sons-in-law of the baron of Calder, who also were signatories of the deed of 1541, namely a lion rampant for James Dundas of Dundas, the husband of Margaret Sandilands; and a fesse chequy betwixt three cocks for Sir John Cockburn of Ormistoun, who married Alison Sandilands, the elder sister of Margaret above-named. The former of these shields was described by the late Mr John Riddell as the Royal arms of Scotland; but there is no appearance of the tressure, and looking at all the circumstances, we have no hesitation in assigning this device to Dundas of that Ilk. At the eastern end of the choir, above the vestry, two small pointed lights were appointed to be constructed, but for this one large window has been substituted, which extends from the roof of the vestry upwards to the eaves course. Viewed from the interior, therefore, this window occupies the upper half only of the eastern elevation, where in ancient times it shed its light over the high altar. (See plate facing page 206). The arrangement of the tracery is similar to that of the central window on the south front, and a shield bearing the pure arms of Douglas supports the coping on the right hand side. The four buttresses on the south wall are of massive proportions, being 2 feet 6 inches broad by over 5 feet in depth, and have evidently been intended to carry the thrust of the stone-

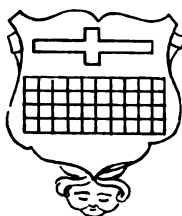
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\* Whether connected or not with the erection of Calder church, we find an action before the Supreme Civil Court in 1561 at the instance of James [Sandilands], Lord St John, Preceptor of Torphican, Knyt, onlie executor on life to umquhile Walter Lindsay, Lord Saint John yat last deceissit, for a legacy left by the latter.

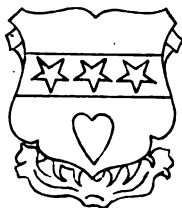
Dundas.



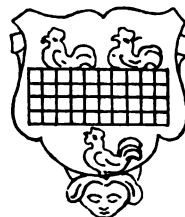
Lindsay.



Douglas.



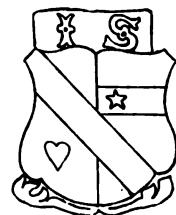
Cockburn.



Sandilands.



Sandilands.



H.B.M.F.C. Del.

Geo. Bailey, Lith.

⇒ Tracery & Armorial details. ⇐





vaulted roof which it was contemplated to build; they are divided by a series of moulded intakes into four tiers or stages, rising from a continuous splayed base, and terminating with sloping heads immediately under the eaves. According to the specification these buttresses should have terminated in pinnacles, a very characteristic feature in the architecture of this period. Such do not, however, appear to have at any time existed here, though two pinnacles of a debased type surmount the eastern angles of the vestry. Upon that at the southern angle are cut the armorial shield and initials of the venerable Sir James Sandilands, baron of Calder from 1509 until his death in 1559. The carved ornament upon the face is of decided renaissance character, and at the sides appear the letters I.H.S. and P.S. for Mr Peter Sandilands, rector. The pinnacle at the north-east corner exhibits the armorial achievement of Sir James Sandilands, Lord St John, 1543-1579: the angels as supporters are taken from his official insignia as preceptor of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, but the shield presents the coats of Sandilands and Douglas only, without the Torphichen quarters, from which it is probable that the carving was executed prior to 1563. The crest of the Calder family, before their adoption of the eagle crest



Fig. 32.—Monogram of Rev. Peter Sandilands.



Fig. 33.—S. Pinnacle.

of St John, is a subject upon which antiquarian writers have differed, Mr Riddell calling it a camel's head, whilst others have said the head and neck of a horse, and according to one authority the head of a boar. Nor is the crest here delineated sufficiently distinct to instruct the point, though it clearly is the head of some creature, erased at the shoulders. On the south face of this pinnacle, the monogram P.S. in a knot is



Fig. 34.—N. Pinnacle.

repeated, and on the other side appears the invocation **MARIA**—the symbols of Jesus and Mary thus supporting the two extremities of the

vestry. The legend in an escroll below the shield *NE CORRUM* is not a motto of the family, but rather relates to the pinnacle—*LEST I FALL*. The very unusual position occupied by the vestry at the eastern end of the chancel is accounted for by the fact of vaults being constructed beneath it for the interment, adjacent to the altar, of the members of the family of Calder House. The “revestrie” is mentioned in our Session’s records in the year 1630; and on 27th December 1698:—

The minister reports that my Lady Torphichen allowed the Session to repair the vestry for a Session-house, as they desired. The Session appoints the Eleemosynar to get money from my Lord’s annual rents to repair the same. Concluded with prayer.

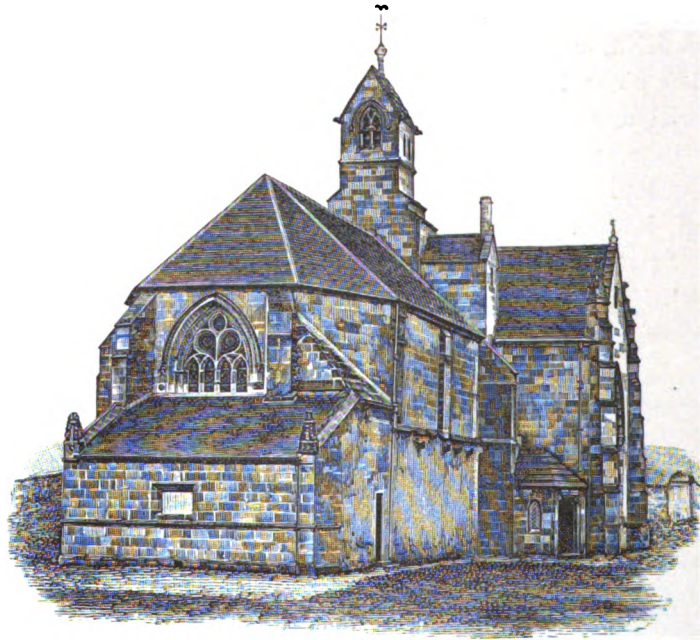


Fig. 35.—The Church from the N E.

In the course of the following century the building ceased to be used for other purposes than as a place of burial, and a plain square building was erected for a Session house, beside the entrance gate to the churchyard, as shewn in the illustration which forms the frontispiece to the present work. At the period of the restoration and extension of the church in 1863 this building was demolished, and the upper portion of

the old vestry was again adapted for use as a Session house ; we see therefore that this was in reality only going back to the original purpose for which the structure was designed.

The north wall is 5 feet in thickness, and there are no windows on this side of the sacred edifice. A very large buttress at the west end meets the thrust of the choir arch, and helps to support the weight of the gable roof which covers the belfry stair on the north side of the steeple. The upper part of the wall, of dressed stone, is strengthened by two shallow buttresses, and is divided from the rougher mason-work below by a string course or water table which runs along the wall at a height of 16 feet from the ground where the roof of the cloister should meet the choir. Indications of an arched doorway communicating with the church on this side may still be traced at the back of Dr Sommers' monument. The choir arch is original work, and is constructed with very massive abutments 9 feet in width, to carry the weight of the steeple which is reared immediately over it. The present belfry or steeple, aspiring to a height of about 22 feet above the roof, was erected in 1863, and reminds us a little in its details of the bell gable at Skelton in Yorkshire. The drawing on the following page is obligingly furnished by Thomas Ross, Esq., of Messrs Macgibbon & Ross, Architects, Edinburgh. Mention is made of the ringing of a kirk bell in the year 1617, but no belfry existed prior to 1628, when the walls were carried up a few feet, and the tower terminated with a slated wooden cot. Access hereto was obtained by means of a newel stair in the northern abutment of the choir arch, which still remains.

1626, *Sept.* 3.—The taxes collectit for ye bell be Mr Patrik Kynloche with ane uther Leet be Mr Jhone tennend, person, being this day conform to ye tax-roll, it was fund that they had collectit betwix them £142, 10s. Of this soume yere was gewin to Charls hog, caster of ye bell £127, and for ye steking £13, 6s. 8d. extending till £140. The weight of ye bell was 11 stane sewin pund at 15sh. ye pund weight.

In the course of the following year several entries occur in the Session's records relative to the purchase of "Sklattis to ye steipill" and "theiking of ye belhous," and in April 1628 we see:—

The steipill being now erectit and ye new bell hung yrin, and being faulty, and Charles Hogg, caster yrof being desyred to cum and heir ye sound of ye bell and perceive ye fault yrin, eftir adwyse, persavit the bell to be revin, yrfor according to his

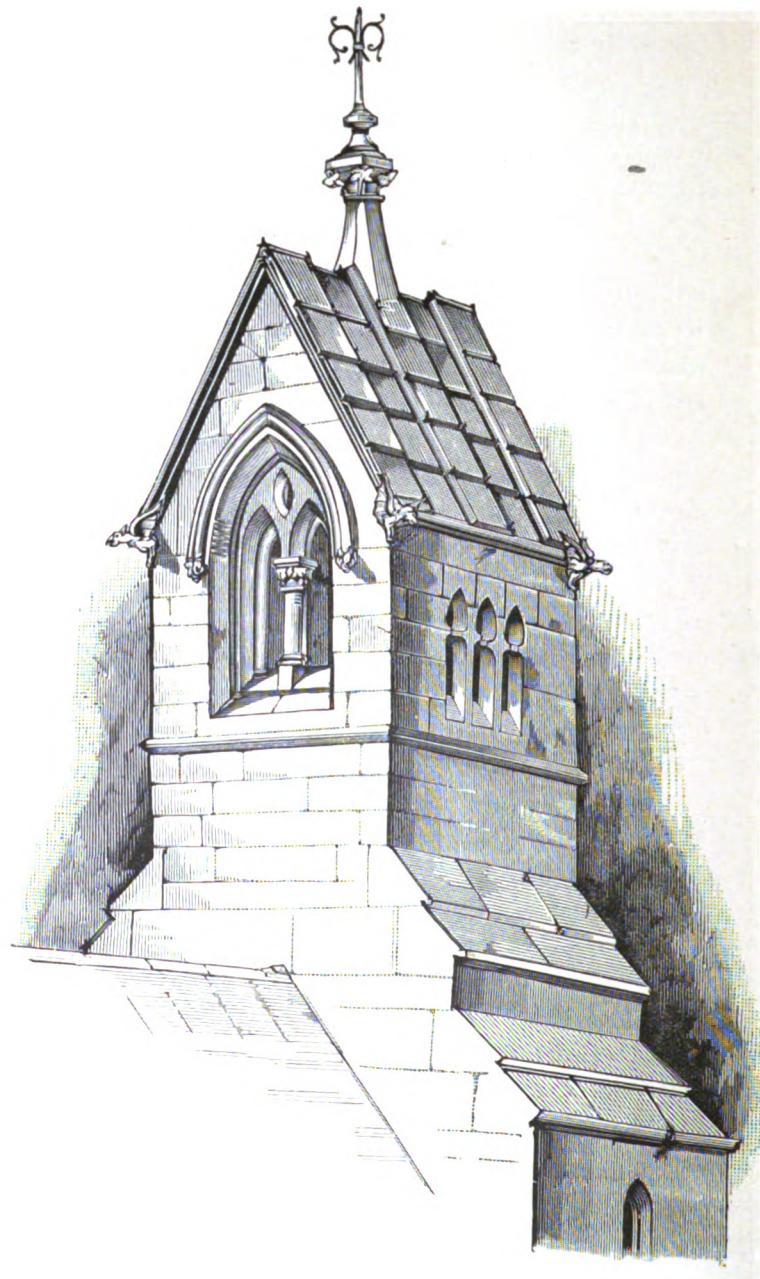


Fig. 36.—The belfry of the Parish Church.

termis quha had promeissit giff ye bell war not sufficient efter tryall takin yroff, he suld cast it off new again, aggreit to do ye sam and promissit to have it in reddiness betuixt and witsundy next.

About a hundred years after this the present bell was gifted to the church of Calder by the Lady Jean Hume, wife of James, 7th Lord Torphichen. It is said to have been brought from Holland by Patrick, Earl Marchmont, Lady Torphichen's father, who, having been banished from Scotland during the religious troubles, returned in 1688 with the Prince of Orange, by whom he was made Chancellor of the kingdom. Upon this bell was inscribed SOLI DEO GLORIA ARENT VANDER PVT ME FECIT ROTTERDAMI, A<sup>o</sup>. 1663; it was recast by order of the heritors in 1876, when the above inscription was accurately reproduced around the upper part of the bell, and on the top was added RECAST FOR THE HERITORS OF MID-CALDER BY LAIDLAW & SON, 1876. There was also in former times a church clock on the east face of the bell tower facing the street. In the Book of Deaconry it is recorded, 21st February 1692, that this day Robert Ker, kirk officer, made his complaint to the Session that for the space of twa zeir bygane he had gotten no acknowledgment of his pains and some chairges he had been at for the knock, upon which the Session thought fit to give the said Robert this day's collection, amounting to £2 Scots; and again in 1693 and 1695 Robert Ker is paid for his care of the knock. What became of the said *knock* is not now known, but a report was formerly current in the parish that it was sent into Edinburgh to be repaired, and as the Session and heritors objected to pay the cost, the person who had repaired it thought it proper to reimburse himself for his trouble by selling the clock to the Magistrates of Peebles.

The interior of the choir presents little that is of architectural interest, much of the original condition of the building having been lost or covered up by modern treatment. There remains, however, a series of heavily-moulded and carved corbell stones of the original builder's work, forming the springers for the groined arches never completed. Upon two of these stones in the pentagonal apse behind the altar are depicted plain shields, supported, the one by a maiden's head and the other by a skull, indicating blossom and decay; whilst upon the corbells in the western angles of the chancel are carved, upon the one a cowed monk, with the Douglas heart

and star upon his vestments, and the legend PETRUS FECIT—perhaps in allusion to Mr Peter Sandilands; and upon the other a shield bearing the quartered insignia of Sandilands and Douglas, upheld by a demi-savage.

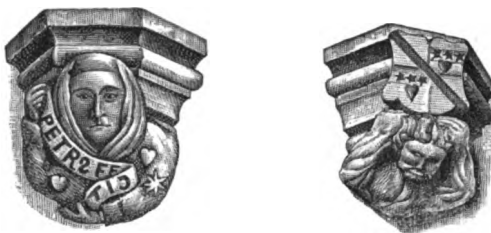


Fig. 37.—Carved Corbell Stones.

The Puritanic sentiment which prevailed during the 17th century being entirely devoid of interest in architecture or decoration of any kind, the church of Calder suffered, in common with many others in Scotland, during that sterile period. The love of kirk lofts, which was characteristic of the time, made itself felt by the introduction of a large gallery running round the east, north, and west walls, and approached by an outside stair and a glass door through the south-east window to make room for which a part of the moulded jamb was knocked away. The church was newly roofed, and a plain flat ceiling constructed in such a manner as to cut off from view the tops of the fine gothic windows, and an addition was made at the west end of the fabric in a very inferior style of architecture. In this "Wester Kirk" there existed a belfry door, and also a trigonal-headed entrance door with roll and fillet moulding to which allusion is made in 1647.

The Sessioun ordainis and gives power to James Flint to agrie with Samuell Aikman to repair the wast kirk duir and with George Wallace for a band and cruik yrto.

The following are some of the earlier notices in the transactions of the Kirk-Session having relation to the fabric of the church:—

1605, *May 22*—There was in ye moneth of Marche preceeding ane taxatioun imposit upon ye parochiners of 400 merks for repairing of ye kirk.

1624, *July 25*—It was thocht expedient this day that in respect the windows in ye

kirk's queir war brokin and decaying in the glas, that the glasier sould be spokin and aggrement mad with him both for glassing and wying off them, with the vestrie twa windows ; quhen meitting with him aggreit for his payns and travel to giff him for ye glas fourty merkis and for ye wying xxiiij lib.

1649, *April* 19—All the heritors hes declaired thameselffis content to contribut for repairing the kirk, now in hazard of ruine, except Andrew Oswald of Lethame.

There are various minutes regarding the erection of seats in the church. In 1629 the Session appoints the seat at the back of Mr Patrick Kinloch his desk to appirten to ye elders quha gatheris the almous, and al uthers to be debarit tharfrom. But there can be no doubt that the seats or "desks" in the body of the church were, in general, the private property of those who sat therein ; and the position or "room" where each might erect his pew was allotted and assigned from time to time at a meeting of the heritors held for that purpose. In August 1645 William Anderson in Burnheid desyred his seat might be removed to the kirk of Caldercleir, but the Session objecting to this, resolved to cause some one in this parish to buy the seat from him. These specially appropriated sittings all stood at this time on the floor of the building, the eastern gallery being alluded to as "the common loft," to distinguish it from Lord Torphichen's gallery, which was affixed to the north wall. At the west end a smaller gallery is designated in 1782 the "Alderston and Linhouse loft."

In the year 1639 Mr Patrick Kinloch of Alderston, advocate, bequeathed by his will 40 merks for repairing the kirk of Calder, provided that he, his heir and successor, be restored to a desk and seat within the said kirk, which had lately been removed at the instance of Mr James Ross, minister of Livingston, and Mr James Scott of Bonyngtoun. In 1646 the pulpit was placed between the windows of the choir, which continued to be its position until 1863 ; some structural alterations were also made at the west end, and a fresh allotment of seats was rendered necessary by the division of the parish into Mid and West Calder.

1646, *April* 16—This day being appoyntit for settling of the seats in the church y<sup>t</sup> all y<sup>t</sup> war interest myt have y<sup>r</sup> seats convenientlie, and for decorement of the church and uther conveniencies most necessar, my Lord Torphichen and ye reminant Heritors and Elders being convenit for y<sup>t</sup> effect, all in one voyce did refer y<sup>m</sup> to Mr Ephraim Melvill, Mr Patrik Sheills, James Sandilands, Bailzie, and James Flint all four



personallie present quha did accept and determine as followis viz. that the pulpit sould be removed eistward under the twa eistmost slittis of the waster windo of the queir. S<sup>r</sup> Wm. Ross his seat to be nixt the pulpit wpoun the wast syde yrof, S<sup>r</sup> Joseph Dowglas seat to be behind S<sup>r</sup> Wm. Ross seat, on the wast syde yrof wpoun the eist syde of the pene q<sup>r</sup> the pulpit will stand. Andrew Oswald of Lethamis seat to be a dowbill seat, att the bak syde of S<sup>r</sup> Josephs seat just wnder the pene and to run no farder out nor S<sup>r</sup> Wm Ros seate and Sir Josephs seat. The ministeris seat to be on the eist syde of the pulpitt and no other seat to be betwixt the pulpit and the Queir Duire bot it onlie. Hirdmanscheillis seat just at the wast syde of the Belhous duire. The Bailzeis to stand q<sup>r</sup> it is now presentlie, the fairsyde yrof turnit to the south. Lynhous seat q<sup>r</sup> Hirdmanscheillis seat now stands. Mr Jamis Kynlochis seat nixt-be-east the Laird of Lynhous q<sup>r</sup> Jone Hamiltoun of Grangis seat now stands. Alex<sup>r</sup> Lochart of Braidschallis and James Tenent of Ower Williamstoun y<sup>r</sup> seats to remain q<sup>r</sup> they now stand. Mr Lowrence Scott seat and Wm. Dowglas of Gogar y<sup>r</sup> seats to be q<sup>r</sup> Mungo Lockhart of Harwood and umqll Ion Kennowie of Adieweill y<sup>r</sup> seats now ar. Jamis Flintis seat at the bak of the laird of Lethamis seat, and the Laird of Carnis seat to remain q<sup>r</sup> it is, with ane wall of stain and Lyme to be built at the west syd of the west Kirk Duire throwghe the breadth of the kirk, the height of the hanging posts w<sup>t</sup> twa slittis of the waster windo of the queir to be taikin down and new glassit. And the expenssis in removeing the pulpit, building the s<sup>d</sup> wall and vyr neidfull for decoring the s<sup>d</sup> Kirk to be Bestowed and giwen be the foirsd personis quha resaves the benefite of the seats as sd is, at the determination of the sd. Mr Ephraim, Mr Patrik, James Sandilands and James Flint. Qrwnto all of y<sup>m</sup> did condiscend and promise to abyde.\*

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\* Payments were made in the years 1639 and 1644 to the sclaitters for sclaitting ye kirks queir, and to Robert Aikman in 1653 for "repairing and building ye kirk Loft." In the same year a fresh allocation of seats, "conform to thair rankis" was agreed upon by the heritors as below; and in 1654 a new pulpit was gifted by Lady Ross.

1653, Oct. 20.—The Heritors as under being convened to deliberate "upon repairing of the church and concerning the schoolmaister and likwayis concerning a contribution for repairing the common Loft," namely, My Lord Torphichen, Hirdmanscheills, Sir Joseph Douglas of Pumpherstoun, John Muirheid of Linhous, Mr James Kinloch of Alderstoun, Alexander Lockhart of Howden, James Tennent and James Lichtoun of Overwilliamstoun, Samuel Johnstoun, the Laird of Cairnes, John Wryght and Ledie Letham. The qlk day the heritores unanimouslie condiscended with the Session that the pulpit sould stand wher it is and that the ministers sait sould be on the wast syd of the pulpit. The whilk day Mr James Kinloch was contented to retain still his antient room, and in lik maner the Laird of Cairnes is contented with his. Also it is appointed that all the saits on the south syd of the kirk sould be south and north having their heads to the wall. As also the Ledie Letham her sait is appointed to be sett up immediatlle behind the Laird of Cairnes his sait, and in lyk maner the Laird of Herdmansheills is appointed to sett up a double saitt wher the Ledie Letham had her sait befor. As also William Douglas his sait is appointed behind Overwilliamstounis sait, Alexander Lockhart his sait being befor the said Overwilliamstounes



*Jas. Drummond, R.S.A., Del.*

*Geo. Barley, Lith.*

—> Interior of the Parish Church. 1860. <—



The illustration which forms the frontispiece to the present volume is taken from a very beautiful drawing of the church made by William Penny, an artist and engraver who resided in Mid-Calder in the early part of the present century, and the plate upon the opposite page represents the condition of the interior immediately before the alterations of 1863.

In that year it was determined to execute a thorough restoration of the church and an extensive enlargement of its dimensions—a work which was carried into effect from designs by Maitland Wardrop, Esq., of Messrs Brown and Wardrop, architects, Edinburgh. The added portion consists of north and south transepts, the interior dimensions of which are similar to those of the chancel, namely 58 ft. 6 in.  $\times$  23 ft., so that the area of the building is exactly doubled by this addition. The vaulted form of roof has been adopted throughout, but it is composed entirely of plaster with wood-framing, and the same material has unhappily been also employed to cover the interior of the ancient walls, obscuring in a great measure the venerable aspect which the choir should present. The transepts are flanked by four angle buttresses terminating in pinnacles, and this part of the sacred edifice is enlightened by four pointed windows enriched by tracery which well sustains comparison with the old work, and by a small rose-window placed in

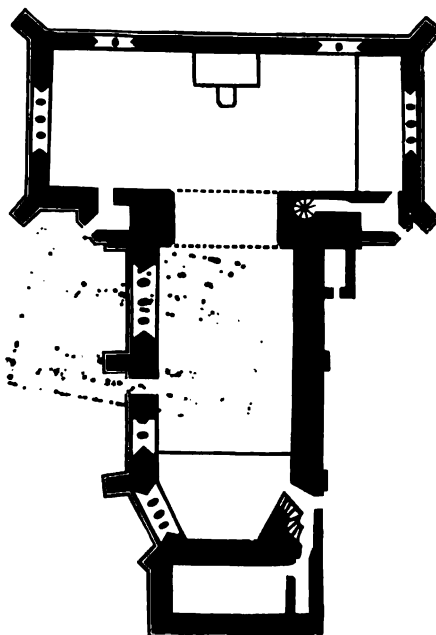


Fig 38. — Plan of the Church.

sait. In Lik maner Mr Lawrence Scot his sait is appointed to be behind William Douglas his sait and the Cameltie sait to be behind Mr Lawrence Scot his sait. Likways Bankheid sait is appointed to be behind the Laird of Herdmansheilles sait and Samuell Johnstounes sait behind the Ledie Lethems sait. The whilk day My Lord Torphichen condescended to sett up ane single sait wher my Lord Ross his sait was befor wherunto all the Heritors aggreed.

the centre of the west wall immediately above the organ. Armorial shields have been carved at the terminations of the outer hoods of these windows, agreeable to the model upon the old church, the insignia represented being those of the heritors at the time of the extension of the structure. This has been carried out, however, with less knowledge of heraldry than was displayed by the ancient builders, crests occupying the place of arms upon the shields in most cases, and the Torphichen quarters being omitted from the coat of Lord Torphichen. The armorials and initials are those of—

- P. M. Peter M'Lagan of Pumpherston.
- R. S. Robert Sandilands, Lord Torphichen.
- I. G. James Gray of Baad-park.
- R. T. Robert Tod of Howden.
- A. L. Alex. Learmonth of Murieston.
- I. H. P. Jane Hay Primrose of Burnbrae.
- I. M. James Marr of Alderston.
- H. R. Henry Raeburn of Charlesfield.

The modern wood-work in the interior has been well designed and executed, sitting accommodation being provided for 500 worshippers; the upper panels on the pulpit, carved with what is known as the linen-fold pattern, are simple and charming. The edifice has also been enriched in recent years by three memorial windows. In the south transept the larger window, the gift of John Wilson, Esq. of Alderston, was illuminated in 1891. The subject chosen for illustration in the first two lights is the visit of S.S. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James to the sepulchre, with the text, "*He is not here, for He is risen,*" and the last two lights represent the Saviour's appearance to S. Mary in the garden, with the words "*Touch me not for I am not yet ascended;*" the colouring has been kept rich and quiet, suitable to a southern aspect. The other window in this transept was dedicated by Thomas Graham Young, Esq., to the memory of his parents, and has beneath it this legend: "In memory of James Young, LL.D., F.R.S., of Limefield, died 1883; and of his wife Mary Young, died 1868." The first light shews Moses at Sinai receiving the tables of the law, "*God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;*" whilst the second light depicts Mary sitting at the feet of Jesus, and Martha, "cumbered about

much serving," with the text "*Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.*" In the north transept the western window has been filled by Mr and Mrs Walker of Limefield. It is an illustration of the words "Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." The window in the gallery has a representation in stained glass of the four evangelists, but in an indifferent style of art. Other memorial institutions within the church are a marble tablet bearing the words: "Sacred to the memory of Anne Inglis, Baroness Torphichen, who died May 12th, 1849, aged 87, and was laid here beside her Husband, James, 9th Lord Torphichen, who was born 15th Nov. 1759, died 7th June 1815." Also an heraldic brass with the arms of the Hon. Douglas Sandilands, and the following inscription: "This tablet is placed by the Right Hon. Lord Torphichen in memory of his youngest brother, Douglas Sandilands, born 20th Oct. 1851, died at Wagga-Wagga, Australia, 13th Dec. 1882.

In the minister's pew at the eastern end of the choir is preserved an



Fig. 39.—Ancient Carved Panel.

old deal panel, evidently a portion of a wooden seat which formerly stood immediately opposite the pulpit. Upon it is carved an incorrect illustration of the arms of Sandilands, with the initials I. S. and I. L. In another

part appears the date 1595, with letters and religious legends as seen in Fig. 39.



Fig. 40.—Communion Cup of Calder Church.

The communion cups were procured in 1673, but appear to have been manufactured some few years earlier, as they bear the Edinburgh Hall and maker's mark of William Law, who was admitted in 1662; and the deacon's punch of James Symontoun, deacon 1665-67. On the upper rim of these cups is engraved—I WIL TAKE THE CUP OF SALUTATION AND CALL WPON THE NAME OF THE LORD; and around the foot—FOR THE KIRK OF CALDER, 1673. In the Session's records, 2nd May 1673, appears:—

Whilk day the Sessioun ordained two Communion Cups to be bought for the use of the Church of Calder with the mort cloth money in Thomas Kennua's hand quich was fund to be in all £204. 13s [Scots], and that if they extend to any more, they sall be payed of ye readiest.

The flagons and patens are of pewter, and were the gift of the Lady Torphichen in 1721.

1721, *February 20th*—The min<sup>r</sup> reports that Lady Jean Hume, Lady Torphichen, has gifted to the Session two English pewther fflagons and two English pewther plats and two fine serviters utensils for the sacrament, the fflagons and plates have her own name on ym and the Serviters has Lord Torphichens arms wrought in ym. The session appoints the minister to return her thanks in name of the Session.

The plates used for collecting the charity of the congregation are also of pewter, and bear the inscription "For the Parish Church of Mid-Calder, 1749."

It is somewhat remarkable that so ancient a churchyard should contain so few tombstones of any special antiquity. There are a few moss-grown stones, apparently of great age, but quite illegible; otherwise the earliest inscription is that of Joseph Douglas of Badds, 1636.

In September 1624 there is an order for ane new beir for carying off ye deid to ye kirk-yard—and that all burials sould be properly conveyit be ye nyctbors under ye pane off xsh. . . Item that na man suffirs his bestiall, hors, nowt nor shep to pastur in the kirk-yaird. We may suppose

that at this time graves were dug indiscriminately by the friends of deceased persons, but in 1633 the Session ordained that "nane brek ye Kirk-yard for buriall, but only ye beddell off ye Kirk for ye tyme," it being explained that the object of this enactment is that "no wrong be done to utheris in y<sup>r</sup> buriall."

The following are the most interesting of the older tombstones :—

T. S. I. W. Heir lyth Ioseph Douglas of Badds who departed this lyfe the 20 day of Aprile anno dom. 1636.

This is William Forest stone in Limefield. Here lyes John Forest who died Febervary 17th 1730 aged 59 and also his first wife Janet Nisbet. . . .

Here lyes the dust of John Graham of Wester Causeyend who died March 9 1754 aged 64 years also Elizabeth Graham who died Nov. 7th 1770 aged 7 years.

Mementi mori 1751. Here lyes the dust of Charls Edmonstone and Elizabeth Morvall his spouse and two of their. . . .

Erected by John Paton Farmer Upper Williamston to the memory of Janet Paton who died 11th September 1769 aged 5 years also Michael Paton who died 9th April 1770 aged 3 months also John Paton who died 15th September 1770 aged 50 years. Also Janet Wilson his spouse who died 16th June 1790 aged 58 years also Alex. Paton who died 4 April 1837 aged 69 years. Also Thomas Paton who died 23 April 1847 aged 85 years.

1778. Here lies the dust of Mary Robertson spouse was to Matthew Comb tennant in Nether Houden likewise of six of their children viz. Archd., Matt., Alex., Eliz., Beatrix and Eliz. Combs who all died before her. She died in Feb. 1774 her age 56 years. Maurice Comb died in the island of Tobago. To die young said one is the leaving of a superfloues feast before the drunken cups are presented.

1779. Sacred to the memory of James Wylie of Cockridge who died 21 April 1778 aged 82. Helen Peebles his spouse who died 18th July 1764 aged 73. John and James their children who died in their infancy also Jean Dickson his second spouse who died 9th December 1780 in her 57th year, and William Macfarlane Wylie grandson of the above who died at Edinburgh 28th April 1886 in his 60th year.



J.S. This stone is erected by James Smith in memory of Grizel Masson his spouse who was born the 23 March 1722 and died the 18 of June 1780. Died the 5 of Decem. 1798 James Smith aged 76.

1791. This stone was erected by Will Stark Tenent in Dedridge in memory of his two children William and Elizabeth.

1799. This stone was erected by William Smith tenand in Harrys in the Moor said William Smith died on the 10th day of January 1800, aged 72 years.

1799. Here lyes interred with his wife and 8 of his children the Rev. Mr. Wm. M'George late minister of the Associate Congregation of Mid-Calder who died July 3 1799 in the 56 year of his age and 34 of his ministry much lamented.

1800. This stone was erected by George and Thomas Williamson.

1800. This stone is erected by James Tennant in Standingstone at East Whiteburn to the memory of Elizabeth Eddie his spouse died January 1794 aged 77 years. Also his relations are intirred here.

Sacred to the memory of James Murison Esquire of Dunbrae and Westfield who died 8th of June 1803 and of Henrietta Guild his wife who died 7th of April 1816.

To the memory of David Burn. Let candour tell the rest. 1808.

T. G. K. W. 1815. Erected to the memory of Christian Graham who died May 14th 1808 aged 72. Also John Graham her husband late tennant in West Collium who died Oct. 26th 1810 aged 79 years.

In memory of Miss Alison Moubray of Calderbank, eldest daughter of the late Henry Moubray Esquire of Calderbank who died on the 27 December 1842 aged 68 years. Here lies the body of Henry Moubray of Calderbank who died 14th June 1803 aged 69 years.

1843. Erected by the parishioners to the memory of the Reverend John Sommers D.D. their late Pastor who died xxv day Septr. MDCCCXLII in the LXXVIII year of his age and XLVIII of his ministry widely and deeply regretted.

Sacred to the memory of the Rev. William Walker, minister of the parish of Mid-Calder, who departed this life on the 2nd November 1882 in the 80th year of his age and 40th of his ministry. This monument is erected by his parishioners and friends, by whom he was much esteemed and is deeply regretted.

CHAPTER V.

## Ecclesiastical History



Fig. 41.—Ruins of St Cuthbert's Church.

OF even greater antiquity than the ecclesiastical structure which has engaged our attention in the preceding chapter is the old church, the ruins of which still stand by the roadside between the village and East Calder. This edifice was built in the 12th century, and was dedicated to the Venerable St Cuthbert, whose bones and robes are deposited at Durham.

Where, after many wanderings past,  
He chose his lordly seat at last,  
Where the cathedral, huge and vast,  
Looks down upon the Wear.  
There, deep in Durham's gothic shade,  
His relics are in scarlet laid.

The church is first mentioned by that Rudolph de Clere who had a grant of the manor of East Calder from Malcolm IV. On the accession

of William the Lion in 1165, this personage ceded to the monks of Kelso the church of Caledour, with all rights belonging thereto, upon the condition that they allowed him to have within his court a private chapel without detriment to their mother Church—an intimation which seems to imply that the patronage of the rectory was then with the monks. He afterwards granted to the Abbey of Kelso, and to St Cuthbert's Church of Calder, for the welfare of his soul, the tenth part of the multure of his mill of Calder; and this and the former grant were confirmed by King William and by Richard, Bishop of St Andrews, anno 1165-1173. We do not enter in any detail into the history of this venerable edifice, which now belongs to the parish of Kirknewton, but we may say that it continued with the monks of Kelso until the Reformation, after which East Calder was for nearly a century attached to this parish. On 14th July 1641 the inhabitants petitioned the Presbytery to be disjoined from Mid-Calder, and Mr John Dunlop, a son of the minister of Ratho, was ordained the first regular Presbyterian minister there in October 1642. The small parish thus erected was united to Kirknewton by the Commissioners of Teinds, 23rd January 1751. The following report was made regarding the building in 1627 :—"The kirk is ruinous, the roof already decayit."

The area of the ecclesiastical parish of Calder Comitis appears to have been determined by the bounds of the barony, and its extent embraced in ancient times all the country between Calder village and the parish of Cambusnethan. The whole of this district was, previous to the year 1645, under the jurisdiction of the parish church and minister of Mid-Calder. At that epoch this extensive parish was divided by the "Commissioners for the plantation of kirks," and the modern parish of West Calder was disjoined.

We need scarcely remark that the now populous township of West Calder has attained to its present dimensions entirely within the last two hundred and fifty years, and in this respect affords a true illustration of a Scottish *Kirktown*—a town, that is, which has grown up around its kirk in distinction from those which, like Mid-Calder, have been fostered by their feudal castles. The spiritual needs of the western portion of this large parish, previous to the erection of West Calder church were

met by a chapel which formerly stood beside the banks of the Harwood Water, the memory and situation of which are alike preserved in the name and site of Chapelton, which still designates the locality. Here, since the dawn of the 16th century at least, stood a chapel of ease to the parish church of Calder, which remained until after the Revolution. It would appear that before the Reformation there existed also a chapel in the upland district of the parish at Camilty. In an action tried by the Lords of Council, 11th February 1492, the lands of Williamstoun and Braidschaw are mentioned, as also four akers of land liand besid ye Camolty Chapell; and in the year 1524, Sir James Sandilands of Calder cedes to Margaret Bertoun, affianced spouse of John Sandilands, his eldest son, the lands of Blackhall and others, "with advocacy of the Chapel and Chaplainry called Cammyltie Chapell."

Turning now to the principal charge of the parish, the church of Calder Comitis, which was included in the ancient diocese of St Andrews, appears to be one of David I.'s numerous ecclesiastical foundations. The first distinct reference to it in historical documents which have reached us is to be found in a grant of Ela, Countess of Fife, preserved in the chartulary of Dunfermline Abbey. This grant is undated, but its date is fixed by internal evidence to be between the years 1150 and 1165; a translation is here inserted:—

To all the sons of the holy mother church, Ela, Countess of Fif, greeting. Be it known as well to the future as to the present that I by this my present charter have confirmed the grant of Earl Duncan, my lord, of the church of Kaledour with half a carucate of land and other pertinents to the monks of Dunfermline in free and perpetual alms-gift, for the weal of my soul and the souls of my parents.

Witness.—Andrew, Bishop of Caithness; Alfred, Abbot of Stirling; Earl Duncan; Madian and Albin, chaplains; Michael and Hugo and Abraham, clerks; Mahald of St Liz; William of Aubeni; Alexander of St Martin; and Adam of Syreis.

The grants of the Lady Ela and her husband appear to have been confirmed by Malcolm IV., and in the year 1184 there is a general confirmation to the monastery by Pope Lucius of all the churches thereto belonging which had been granted to the said abbey by Malcolm, Alexander, Edgar, David, and Malcolm, sometime Kings of Scots. This deed is dated at Verona 14 kalens of November 1184, and the churches are particularly specified, including *ecclesiam de Wester Caledoure*, with

all its freedoms and immunities. Similar confirmation to the monastery and church of the Holy Trinity of Dunfermline, of the church of Kaledoure "which Earl Duncan granted to them," is made by Hugo, Bishop of St. Andrews, 1173-1187; and the church was also specifically confirmed to the monks by a bull of Pope Alexander, dated at Turin vij ides of June 1163.

By what means or at what precise period the church of Calder was given up by the monks we are not informed, but in the 13th century it was again an independent parsonage. In a list of churches consecrated by Bishop David de Bernham in the "Pontificale" of that ecclesiastic, the church of Caledouere Com. appears consecrated 14th March 1241. Baimaund de Vicci, the papal envoy to Scotland in 1279, compiled a valuation roll of the various benefices, to form the basis of taxation to the Holy See for various purposes, in which the church of Caledour is valued at 40 merks.

It is recorded that during the troublous times of Bruce and Balliol, when the power of England was paramount, Nicholas de Balmyle, persone of Calder Comitis, swore fealty, in company with the Scottish nobles and barons, to Edward I. of England, who thereupon commanded the Sheriff of Edinburgh to restore to him his property, anno 1296. In 1491 George Hepburne, rector of Caldor, was appointed Director of Chancery by James IV. The next parson of whom we have notice is

MR PETER SANDILANDS, a younger son of Sir James Sandilands, 5th baron of Calder, who, on 30th March 1526, witnessed in company with James Sandilands of Cruvy a charter of Andrew Oliphant of Berredale, wherein he is designed rectore of Caldor. We meet with him again as a witness to a charter of Lawrence, Lord Oliphant, 26th April 1538—Mr Peter Sandilandis, rectore of Caldour,—and he was similarly designed at 9th June 1540, when certain lands in Fife were resigned by him in favour of his kinsman, James Sandilands of Cruvy. Previous to 1541 he commenced the work of rebuilding the parish church of Calder, the completion of which he committed to his nephew, Sir James Sandilands, the 7th baron. On 30th January 1541 John Sandilands, fiar of Calder, binds himself to give an annual rent of 20 merkis to ane chaiplane to be appointit be Mr Petir Sandilandis, and his successoris,

for doing of mess and devyne seruice within the kirk of Caldour, and at the hie altar thair of. The last mention we have seen of him is on 5th April 1546, when Mr Peter Sandelandis, parson of Calder Comitis, and fermarer of the kirk and parsonage of Caldercleir brings an action against James Kneland of that ilk, for wrongous spoliation, awaytaking and withholding from him of the teind sheaves of the crop and year 1545. He was the last incumbent belonging to the ancient faith, and was succeeded by Mr John Spottiswood, a clergyman of exceptional abilities, who, living as he did at a critical period in the Church's history, became one of the most distinguished men the parish has produced.

REV. JOHN SPOTTISWOOD, A.M., is stated to be the son of William Spottiswood of Spottiswood in Merse. This would make him brother of David of that ilk, who, at his death in September 1570, appoints Mr John Spottiswood, parson of Calder, one of his executors. There are reasons for supposing, however, that whilst he certainly was connected with the heads of the family, the relationship is not quite so close as has been alleged. He was entered at the Glasgow University as *servus Domini Rectoris*, 27th June 1534, when at the comparatively late age of four-and-twenty, but as he became a Bachelor on the 8th of February in the following year, it is probable that he had previously attended some other seat of learning. In 1538 he went to London, where he became acquainted with Archbishop Cranmer, to whose encouragement so many of our countrymen were indebted, and from whose eagerness in the dissemination of enlightened principles the benefit derived by Scotland cannot easily be estimated. Having taken holy orders from the hands of Cranmer, he returned in 1543 to his native country, accompanied by the Earl of Glencairn, through whom he obtained an introduction to Matthew, Earl of Lennox, who in the following year employed him on a private mission to Henry VIII. Having returned to Scotland, and being known to Sir James Sandilands of Calder, as a strong supporter of the principles of the Reformation, he was, in 1548, prevailed upon by him to accept the parsonage of Calder, then vacant; but as constant residence at his cure was not required, he lived for about ten years with Sir James and Lord James Stewart, then prior of St Andrews, but afterwards better known as the Regent Murray. In the spring of 1556, if not also on other occasions, John Knox visited the

parish, and the Holy Sacrament was administered by him at this time at Calder House. Mr Spottiswood was present at the marriage of the young Queen of Scots with the Dauphin of France in 1558, and happily returned in safety from this expedition, so fatal to many of his companions. He was one of the six elected for drawing up the Book of Discipline and Confession of Faith, and upon the establishment of the Reformation in 1560, he was appointed Overseer or Superintendent of the district of Lothian, Merse, and Teviotdale. In reality he exercised the functions of a bishop in this district, though under a different name, for it was not so much the office as the name to which the Reformers felt aversion, and on grounds of expediency alone such an administrator was certainly necessary to them at that time for distributing the very few ministers who held their sentiments in different parts of the country ; in the year 1568 he had under his superintendence the shires of Edinburgh, Haddington, Berwick, Linlithgow, and Stirling, on this side of the Forth. In June 1562 complaint was made to the Assembly by John Douglas of Pumpherston in name of the kirk of Calder, that they are defrauded divers times of the preaching of the word, since their minister was elected Superintendent of Lothian, and desiring that the said Superintendent should be restored to them again, or some qualified minister be provided for them. It was answered that "the profite of manie kirks is to be preferred to the profite of one particular, and that the kirk of Calder sould either be occupied by the Superintendent or some other qualified person during his absence, which could not be otherwise helped in this raritie of the ministrie." The minister of Calder was at first a favourite with the Queen, and on the birth of her son in June 1566 the General Assembly sent him to "testify their gladness for the prince's birth, and to desire he might be baptized according to the form of the Reformed Church." He took the child in his arms, and falling on his knees implored for him the Divine blessing and protection, to which the Queen listened with reverent attention, although he did not succeed in getting a favourable, nor indeed any, reply to the latter part of his message. His sentiments towards Her Majesty seem later to have been entirely opposite, for immediately after her escape from Lochleven Castle and preparation for hostilities, he addressed a solemn admonition to his flock exhorting all those who had "communicated with her odious impietys"

to consider their defection from God, and by public confession to testify their repentance. He signed the articles drawn up by the Synod in 1572, which he presented to the Assembly in March of the following year. On 16th December 1580 he obtained a pension for three years of £45, 9s. 6d in money, and an allowance of grain for "the thankfull seruice done to his hienes and his predecessouris," and this grant was renewed, 26th November 1583, for five years, but he did not live to enjoy its full benefit. He died on the 5th of December 1585, in the seventy-sixth year of his age; his latter will is dated at Calder, 8th October preceding, whereby he nominates Beatrix Creychtoun, his spouse, and Mr James Spottiswode, his son, his only executors, and leaves twenty merks to the poor of the paroch of Calder. "He was a man," writes his son, "well esteemed for his piety and wisdom, loving and beloved of all persons, and careful above all things to give no man offence." He married Beatrix, daughter of Patrick Creychtoun of Lugton and Gilmerton, by whom he had three sons, namely, John, who succeeded to the charge of Calder; James, D.D., became Bishop of Clogher, Ireland; William, alluded to in the following minute of the Privy Council; and a daughter, Rachael, married to James Tennent of Linhouse.

1601, *June 9*—Complaint by Mr David M'Gill of Cranstoun-riddell, one of the Senators of the College of Justice, that upon 28 May last Williame Spotiswod, brother to Mr Johne Spotiswod, minister, with others of his name, taking advantage of his absence abroad, came to his house of Whinrig armed with hagbuts, swords and other weapons and surprized the same, which they still hold "as ane weirhous." The accused were denounced rebels.

REV. JOHN SPOTTISWOOD, A.M., the eldest son of the preceding incumbent, was born at the house of Greenbank in the parish in 1565, and when only sixteen years of age obtained his degree from the Glasgow University. Two years later, namely in 1583, he was appointed assistant and successor to his father in the benefice of Calder. In the many disputes which ensued between King James and the majority of the clergy regarding the settlement in the Church, he leaned towards the side of the King, conceiving a moderate Episcopacy to consist better than Presbytery with monarchical government. He made himself conspicuous by persecuting the adherents to the ancient faith, and seems also to have shared in no small degree the



superstition of his Sovereign in regard to witchcraft. "Most of this winter," writes the minister of Calder, of the winter of 1590-1, "was spent in the discovery and examination of witches and sorcerers." Some years later Elizabeth Hammiltoun in Calder, and her son Patrick Abercrumby of Bonnytown, accused of hearing mass and of resetting Mr Johne Hammiltoun, jesuit, were required to purge themselves before the Presbytery of Linlithgow by this oath—"that as they wald ansuar to God and his sone Jesus Chryst in that great day of his compeirance that they wes innocent," for not giving whereof they were excommunicated by the Presbytery. On an appeal to the Privy Council, the Lords "fand thameselfis not juges." Other instances might be given of Mr Spottiswood's mistaken zeal in dealing with the professors of the Catholic religion, but they do not, so far as we have seen, relate to the inhabitants of this parish.

The following extracts from the Proceedings of the Baron Court relate to Mr Spottiswood or to the ecclesiastical discipline during his administration :—

1586, *December 20*—The qlk day the bailie decerns James Small to pay to Mr John Spottiswod, persoun of Calder, as son and air and executor of umqle Mr Jon Spottiswod his father, ten punds usuall money of this realme dew of law, quhilk he wes restand awand to the said umqle Mr Jon ye tyme of his deceis for his maills of ye Kirklands occupiit be ye said James of dyvers zeirs preceiding.

1587, *January 3*—William Dowglas and James Tennent of Ower Williamstoun is become actit that George Tennent sall cum and stand at ye pillar of Repentance on Sondag nixt in ye Kirk of Calder, and the nixt tua Sondagis thaireftir the tyme of the haill sermond without clok or wapin and ask forgiveness of God and ye Kirk for ye offence confessed be him on Sondag last in speking to ye minr in pulpit, under ye pane of ijxx lib, the ane half to ye tutor ye vther half to ye puir.

1590, *October 13*—Comperit Mr Jon Spottiswod and declairt yt Williame Sandilands ye tyme of his deceis willit him and James Cochran to tak his geir and pay his dettis, and that thair is ane staig of thre zeir auld, iij zounge stottis, fyve firlots aittis sawand with James Mar in Smallis Meling, a pair pistoleitis, ane sword, ane Jak, plaitislevs and knappskaw. And ordains to geve in ye price yrof nixt court that every ane of ye creditors may be payit.

1590, *November 24*—It is statut and ordaint be ye baillie abouewrittin with consent of ye Laird, his curators and tennents of his baronie, yt for guid order to be keipit on Sondag in tyme of sermon, that na chapman in ye meintyme present his pack to ye plaine-trie for selling of ony merchandise. And sic lyk ye baillie with awise foirsaid ordains yt na cordonaris, creillmen or cadgeris present yr geir quhidder closit or coverit befoir ye sermon.

In 1601 the parson of Calder was selected as chaplain to Ludovick, Duke of Lennox, on an embassy to the court of Henry IV. of France, and on returning through England he had an interview with Queen Elizabeth, then in her declining years. He was one of the five untitled clergy selected to accompany King James to London in 1603, on his accession to the united crowns. On their journey thither, His Majesty received at Burleigh House, near Stamford, the news of the death of James Beaton, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Glasgow, who had lived in France since the Reformation, upon which Mr Spottiswood was appointed to fill the see thus rendered vacant, and was immediately sent back to Scotland; he was at the same time made a privy councillor. Here his connection with Mid-Calder necessarily ceases, but we may say that he attained to high distinction in the Church, being subsequently promoted in 1615 to the Metropolitan See of St. Andrews, and the chancellorship of Scotland. He was the person who placed the crown on the head of King Charles I. at Holyrood House in 1625, and he died at London in 1639, making in his will a confession of his faith in the Apostles' creed, and as touching church government he was persuaded that the government Episcopal is the only right and apostolic form—parity amongst ministers being a breeder of confusion. He compiled a History of the Church of Scotland from the earliest times to the termination of the reign of James VI., which was published with a portrait of the author after his death in 1655; it is considered to have suffered considerably at the hands of the editor. His wife was Rachel, daughter of David Lindesay, Bishop of Ross, descended of the house of Edzell, with whom he had three children—Sir John Spottiswood of Dairsie; Sir Robert, president of the Court of Session, beheaded at St. Andrews for loyalty to Charles I.; and a daughter, Anne, married to Sir William St. Clair of Roslin.

After his promotion he still, for some years at all events, held the benefice of Calder, and was "continued" here in 1608. In our ecclesiastical records 8th April 1604 we read:—

The qlk day James Douglas of nether howdan w<sup>t</sup> Mr Jhone Broun wer deput be ye seassoun to gang to ye presbitrie of Lynlythqw ye nixt thursday heirefter to concure w<sup>t</sup> Mr Jhone Spottiswod, persone and minister of Calder, in ye suting of Mr Robert Gilmure to be coadjutor to ye said Mr Jhone in ye said kirk of Calder.

Rev. ROBERT GILMURE, A.M., a graduate of the University of Edinburgh, in pursuance of this request, was admitted as coadjutor to Mr Spottiswood on 2nd August 1604, "to serve in the said cure with him." The system of pluralities was very general at this period, one individual frequently holding as many as four or five livings in various parts of the country. Other ecclesiastical preferments existed to which no administrative charge was attached, and one of these was the vicarage of Calder-cleir, in the gift of the King. The emoluments of this benefice, which had been held previous to 1596 by the younger Mr Spottiswood, were in that year conferred upon the above-mentioned Mr John Broun, at whose death in 1610 Mr Gilmure was presented to the vicarage by James VI. In the year 1607 we find :—

The twelft day of Appryle and zere of God forsaid [1607] The minister and Seasioun of the kirk of Calder finding it neidfull and expedient that ane Reader sould be appointed in ther kirk for reading ye holy Scripturis oppinly in ye kirk befor preaching and uther necessar tymes in absens off ye minister, and for wrything the common affairis off ther seassion, nominat Jhone Jhonstoun notar-publict ther ordinar clark and Reader (quha had lang befor servit in these offices) to serve in ye said cure, quha for his travellis tharin voluntarily all in ane voyce allowit and be this pnt act allowis to him zerely Twenty mks money. And ordains ane act to be maid hereupon and insert in ther seassiou buik to remane therin ad futurem rei memoriam.\*

1609, *October 22*—It was this day statute be my Lord, ye minister and Seassiou off ye kirk with advyse off ye heritors, gentilmen and uthers parochiners present that everie fewar, maillman and fermirar in ye parochin sould pay zerely to ye beddle ij sh., and ye cottars viijd., and this to be payit be thame at ye receaving of y<sup>e</sup> tickets.

The Holy Sacrament was, in 1607, ordained to be celebrated on two days, and this continued to be the practice in the parish for many years, two successive Sundays being usually chosen ; for instance in 1629 we read—"3tio Apprillis, the Communioun was celebrat for ye first day—11 App., the Communioun was celebrat ye second day." It is of course understood that, as the ordinance was then observed, the communicants were seated around one table, according to which system it would not be convenient for so many to participate at one time. The next two extracts relate to matrimonial customs, and from the former we gather that the

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\* Mr Jhonson continued to hold the office of reader for twenty years at least after this period, for on 12th August 1627 Jhone Jhonson is paid for twa zeiris pensioune fourty merks.

rite had always to follow the proclamation of banns within a specified time :—

1607, *October 4*—Becaus of ane long delay maid be Jhone Lowry in Scheilhill and Beatrix Levinstoun dochter to Thomas Levistoun in howatstoun in not performing ye bands of matrimony within dew tym conform to ye ordinance of ye kirk, thay war ordanit to mary ye nixt sabboth, and to pay to ye use of ye poore for protracting of tym xx sh.

1616, *March 31*—Marion Ffynmerton, servitrix to ye lard off Carnis, requeistit ye Sessioun to caus proclame hir bands of mariage with Alex. Lyon, quhilk thay refusit becaus it was allegit hir husband was yet livand, quhilk scho denyd, sayand he was deid, and tharupoun promisit to report ane testimonial against ye tym off ye mariage.

1615, *App. 16*—Comperit Alex. Jameson in Spittilton, quha being accusit that he came not to ye zerely examinationis, nor communicat not with ye rest off ye paroch, answerit he had communicatit in uther kirks quhilk war narrer hand, as Ratho and Kirknewtoun, quhilk the Sessioun wald not admit for ane excuse, and tharfor was ordanit to pay x lib.

1616, *September 10*—From this day thair was no meatting anent ony discipline becaus off ye harvest. And then tharefter in ye month of November, it pleisitt God to call to his mercy Mr Rob. Gilmour, our pastor.

Mr Gilmure died on 23rd November 1616, aged about thirty-nine ; his testament-dative is recorded at Edinburgh, 27th February 1618, the frie geir amounting to £3,876, Walter, Lord Blantyre, and John, Archbishop of St Andrews being amongst the debtors. His wife was Marie Cleland, whom he married in April 1613, and with whom he had three sons, James, John, and Robert Gilmures. James Gilmour had seisin of the lands of Nether Howden on a precept of *Clare Constat* granted to him by Mr Alex. Lockhart of Braidshaw, as lawful and nearest heir of the deceased Mr Robert Gilmour, minister at the church of Calder, dated 2nd January 1643.

The next incumbent,

Rev. JOHN TENNENT, A.M., an Episcopal clergyman, was a younger son of James Tennent of Linhouse. He acquired his degree at the Glasgow University in 1606, and having a letter to the Presbytery from Archbishop Spottiswood, he was admitted minister 3rd September 1617, and presented by James VI. to the vicarages of Calder and Calder-clere in the following month. From certain entries in our parish registers it appears that the Sabbath was not at this time so strictly observed during the whole day as it has been since.

1617, *December 7*—The first seassion off the kirk halden be Mr Jo Tonnent now

person of Calder. It is statute be the Seassion off the kirk that na ostler sell aill on Sondays from the rynging off the second bell nor nane buy meitt or drynk nather efter that tym ilk ane under the pane of xx sh. and so oft as thai feilzie to doubill the penalty.

Item that no cordiner or uther merchand present ony merchandise or schone to be sould quhill ye preiching be endit, but that they keip all close at ye plane-tre till that tym, and quha contravenis to pay xx sh.

On the other hand, in January following, Jhone Wastoun being fund out off ye kirk, was ordanit to pay fyve shillings and to find caution in tym to cum to keip ye kirk upon ye Sabboth day; and George Wryt at Calder Bridgend, in April 1619 craved pardon of God and his Kirk for harrowing his hemp zaird on the Lord's day.

1630, *July 18*—It is statute that ye kirk officer quha attendis upon ye affaires of ye Seassion sall stand at ye neddermost duir at ye stair of ye revestrie, and not heir ye reasoning of Seasion materis, becaus it was thocht thay keip no secreits.

1635, *May 3*—George Brady, wright in Calder, confessed that he cuttit tymber in ye wod of Calder on ye sabboth days, and actit himselff that if ever he should repeat the offence, he should be banished ye paroche.

1635, *December 6*.—To Nicoll Tennent for making of ane mortcloth with ane silken freinzie about ye edges yroff liij sh.

It was during Mr Tennent's administration that the bell tower of the church was erected, and a new bell procured. He sat on the Commission for Church discipline 21st October 1634, and died 29th June 1638, aged about fifty-two years. His librarie was estimat at twa hundreth merkis and he was awand to Mr George Barbour ane zeiris maill of his dwelling house in Edinburgh and to three women servants £8 each. By his wife, Nicholas Lamb, whom he married 21st April 1619, and who is still mentioned in our local registers in 1643, he had two sons and three daughters, namely: John, Andrew, Margaret, Rachel and Bethia. His grandson, William Tennent, became laird of Cairns in 1693.

REV. GEORGE DUNBAR, the next minister of Calder, was a man of precisely contrary sentiments to those of his predecessor, and a strenuous opponent of the royal and episcopal authority. He was formerly minister of Ayr, and was twice warded in Dumbarton Castle and elsewhere for declining to conform to the articles of the Perth Assembly. He was banished to Ireland by the Privy Council 22nd November 1624, when he is described as "ane decrepite poore aged man," yet he was for twelve

years thereafter a Presbyterian minister at Inver, near Lough Larne, but was deposed by Henry, Bishop of Meath, in 1637. Returning to his native country he was admitted here in 1638, and he died in the month of December 1641. His son Samuel succeeded him in the lands of Pollesche, and another son George died in 1651.

After Mr Dunbar's death some little difficulty was experienced in procuring a successor in the ministry. On 1st June 1642 there is a presentation to Mr William Dunbar, who was however declared by the Presbytery to be "oncapable because of his not entering on his tryals at the tyme appointed." In October of the same year Mr Samuel Rutherford, Professor of Divinity at St. Andrews, was presented to the kirk of Calder. He was a person of considerable eminence, and was one of the Commissioners appointed in 1643 to meet with the Westminster Divines to consult regarding the projected union of the Churches of Scotland and England. The presentation was sustained, but the University of St. Andrews opposing his removal, the Synod yielded to their desire and the translation did not take place. Many particulars relating to the affair are recorded in the register of the Presbytery of St. Andrews, and that of the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale. After this

REV. HEW KENNEDIE, A.M., a young man recommended by Samuel Rutherford, being also of covenanting and republican sentiments, was presented to the parish by John, Lord Torphichen, with consent of his curators, 8th March 1643. As the charge had been long vacant his trials were completed in three weeks, and he was ordained on the 13th of April following his presentation. For the ceremony of institution we read the moderator delivered to him the Bible and the keys of the kirk door, and possession of the manse and glebe was also delivered by handing him "sand and stean." One of the earliest events of his administration was a crusade against the Calder witches. Either the same enlightened spirit which persecuted the Catholics was now particularly zealous in discovering offenders connected with the other world, or else—to adopt the language of the period—the devil had really descended upon the parish at this time in unusual activity. Not only was the minister engaged in supporting the cause of the parliament against their lawful sovereign, but demonology and the black arts were exceptionally rife in the district.

1644, *Feb. 11*—The sessioun ordainit that Agnes Bischope now in the tolbuith of Lynlythgow quha being of befor delatit to the Sessioun to be ane commone charmer was by the presbytrie of Lynlythgow ordainit to be keepit in ward till tryell and cleiring of the samyne, was ordanit be the Sessioun this day to be brought to Calder and detainit in ward for cleiring and tryell to be takin yranent, quhilk was done according to the said ordinance, and the said Agnes Bischope after dew tryell and examinatioun was both by hir awin confessioun and also relevant probatioun sufficientlie cleirit to be ane commone charmer and ane hynous and notorious witch, and for the samyne be the ceivill judge was condemned to be execut according to the law.

1644, *Feb. 28*—Agnes Bischope being put in ward and being wnder censur for charming and witchcraft the sessioun aggriet with Andrew Fergusoun for attending hir ye space of aught dayis nycht and day and allowit to hir 2 sh. in the day for buying of meit and drink to hir, and aggriet with him for the s<sup>d</sup> space ffor aught shillings ilk 24 houris for his meit and fie.

1644, *July 8*—Also compeirit David Aikmane spouse to umquhill Jonet Bruce quha was shortlie [lately] execut for witchcraft, and granted to the Sessioun ane hundred merkis money, for defraying of the charges bestowit on hir the time of hir tryellis and impresonment, &c.

1644, *Sept. 3*.—Being the Sabbath day, Jeane Andersoune made publict satisfacioun in sackcloth for charming, and the minister made certificatioun to hir gif ever scho could be tryed to use charming hereafter scho could be halden ane witch.

It has been supposed that in most cases these unhappy creatures did not understand the nature of the crime of which they were accused, and mistaking their own fears and apprehensions for sorcery, confessed themselves witches accordingly. But a lurid light is shed upon the subject by a note of Sir George Mackenzie, who examined some of these unhappy women in private. "One of them," he says, "who was a silly creature, told me under secrecy that she had not confessed because she was guilty, but being a poor creature who wrought for her meat, and being defamed for a witch, she knew she would starve, for no person thereafter would either give her meat nor lodging, and that all men would beat her and hound dogs at her, and that therefore she desired to be out of the world; whereupon she wept most bitterly and upon her knees called God to witness the truth of what she said." A sad commentary, truly, on the many extorted confessions of witchcraft which encumber and disgrace our parochial registers during the period of Mr Kennedy's administration!

Mr. Kennedy was a great disciplinarian, many of his sessional acts being not untinctured with political complexion. During his ministry the

parish was divided into four quarters, each being under the inspection of two or more of the elders. Thus a tax for church expenses in June 1644 was appointed to be collected by Jhone Stewinson of Hirdmanshiells [Hermand] and James Flint for the mid-quarter; by James Sandilandis bailie, and Gavin Anderson for the eist-quarter: John Ker and John Purdie, with Lynhous's advyse for the over-quarter; and James Douglas of Baddis and Abrahame Stewinson for the wast-quarter. During the time of public plague or sickness in 1645 and 1646 measures were taken by the elders, as we have elsewhere seen, with a view to preventing the infection from spreading in this parish. This circumstance accounts for the exceptional rigour observed as to entertaining strangers or holding communication with the indwellers of other parishes, against which a considerable proportion of the acts of discipline exercised in the Session at this period were directed, and which might otherwise appear somewhat inexplicable. In 1645 Jhone Muirheid of Lynhous, Mr. Jamis Kynloche of Alderstoun and Jon Hamiltoun of Grange [Charlesfield] were directed to "keip the thrie kirk duiris the next sabboth and ilk preaching day and sabboth day yrestir during the remainder of the visitioun, yt no strangeris cum within the kirk."

Mr. Kennedy was a member of Commission of Assembly in 1648, and was a very zealous partizan in the dissensions which at this time divided the Church as well as the State. In the year 1651 occurred the division of the Church into Resolutioners and Protestors, and the minister of Calder joined with Messrs Melvill of Linlithgow, Keith of Ecclesmachan, Row of Abercorn, Kynneir of Calderdere and Wishart of Kinneil, who formed themselves into the Protesting Presbytery, 6th August 1651. Attempts were made to heal the breach by the Resolutioners, who were in the majority, but this party found "that they cannot unite because of the reasons contained in their protestation," so they continued separate until 12th February 1659, when they united. The minister's efforts, as was the case with many of the Covenanting clergy, appear to have been directed rather to politics than to religion. His occupation too with the various public concerns of the times deprived the parish to some extent of his constant attention to his duties here, and we observe that the Rev. Patrick Shiels, the late minister of Livingston, and who was afterwards the first incumbent of the



newly-erected charge of West Calder, officiated here for several months in 1646 and 1647. On the 10th December 1648 the Book of Deaconry informs us that thirteen shillings and fourpence are expended for ye printit covenant and vther twa printit paperis ; and seven days later—

1648, *Dec. 17*—This day the paroche of Calder being frequentlie convenit and being the Sabbath day the Covenant was renewed be subscriyving over again of the wholle parocheneris.

The entries of acts of discipline exercised in the Session continue until August 1649, after which the record is blank for exactly two years. The following minutes may be considered of interest.

1651, *August 10*—After a long intermission of Session be reason of the troubles of the lande, the said day the minister and elders convened efter prayer.

1652, *November 7*—Thomas Elphinston of Calderhall, younger, cited for scandalous carriage in tyme of public worship by going out of the kirk and uttering expressions scandelizing the doctrin and the minister, who was preaching freely against the sins of the tyme ; whereby he did exceedingly scandeliz the people of God, interrupting the minister by his abrupt out-going and by saying “he could not sit and hear a man so rail against Kirk and State.”

1653, *August 25*—This day, week dayis preaching is delayed quhill the harvest be doon.

1656, *May 1*—A list of 85 parishioners including “all Linhouse’s familie except the lard and the lady” convicted of ignorance of the knowledge of God, and 46 more specified by name—“all thes forsaidis persones compeired before the sessione and being convicted some off them for the wanting of the worship of God set up in ther familie, as also others of them for not frequenting examinatione, and in lyk maner others for not having testimoniales from the places from whence they came, as in lyk maner others for not educating ther childrene at schooles was convicted as befor and appointed to be debarred from the table of the Lord till they amended.

1648, *Mar 2*—Ordanis to give up Jone Stevinsoune in Bridgend’s name to the minister the nixt Lord’s day for excommunication, for disobedience both to kirk and presbiterie.

We cannot help remarking—and surely it may be permissible, even in a work devoted to the record of plain historical fact, to notice some of the more obvious lessons which the facts of history have for us—that the Puritan time in our parish, which is usually supposed to have been a period of superior sanctity, is marked, less by a desire on the part of the Church for the spiritual improvement of the people, than by a strenuous effort to

establish an ecclesiastical dominion over their lives and consciences. The sessional acts of discipline during Mr Kennedy's ministry are fully four times as numerous as in any other like period of our history; and the measures resorted to for the detection of offenders strike us as being of a very questionable nature. But let that pass. It is the mode of dealing with delinquencies that reveals the spirit by which the ecclesiastical authorities were actuated. It is surely the part of the Church to aim at reformatory rather than merely punitive discipline, and to compass this by working upon that better nature and finer feelings of which the most degraded are never wholly destitute. But we search in vain for the slightest evidence of any such thought. A case having been ferreted out, it is disposed of as a matter of business, the culprit being ordered to the stocks, or, as the case may be, to stand in sack-cloth while his enormities are thrown in his face before the whole congregation—a system which must have hardened hundreds in iniquity who were half inclined to good; and which never, we are bold to say, checked one man bent upon evil. In short, the one object seems to have been to establish and exercise an administrative power which should vie with that of the civil courts. The distinction we should like to have seen observed is this: that the civil power should exist for the protection of society against crime, whilst the arm of the Church should be stretched out in the interest of the criminal himself, to reclaim him from the error and folly of his ways.

On the establishment of the Restoration Mr Kennedy was deposed 7th December 1660, for “guilt in those things which concerns his Majestie in the defens of the Kingdome.” He returned on the Toleration being granted, and was again minister of Calder at 6th July 1687, but he was in the same year translated to the Trinity College Church, Edinburgh, where he survived the Revolution, and died 25th April 1692, aged about seventy-one years. His children as under, were baptized at Mid-Calder viz.: John baptized 18th March 1649; Hew, 25th November 1652; Thomas, 18th Nov. 1654; Margaret, 15th Feb. 1657; and William, 7th March 1658.

Rev. JOHN COLVILL, A.M., of Episcopal principles, was next presented to the benefice of Mid-Calder. He had been a regent at the old College of St Andrews, and he was admitted here by the Rev. James Ramsay,

moderator of the Presbytery, 9th February 1663. This was the period when *the Persecution*, as it is emphatically called, commenced to rage over the country. We remark that Mid-Calder suffered but slightly by comparison during the troubled years which followed, unless it be in 1684, when the parish engaged the attention of the authorities to some extent, as we have already seen. Patrick Listoun in Calder, and his son, William, of Easter Colzium, took part on the side of the Covenanters in the fight at Rullion Green in November 1666, for which they were sentenced to death in the month of August following, though this sentence was never executed. The said William Listoun was further decerned a rebel on 26th July 1670 for holding conventicles; he survived the Revolution and was for many years an elder in the parish, until 28th August 1698, when the following note occurs—

William Listoun is removed by death.

The entries in our local registers during the period of Mr Colvill's incumbency, do not present much that is of especial interest.

1666—From March 15 to 10 off June y<sup>r</sup> was no session be reason off ye minister's sickness.

1667, *Oct. 23*—This day Mabel Johnstone delated for having some persons drinking in her hous ye last Lords day in the tyme of sermon declared y<sup>r</sup> were some persons she knew not together wt ye Laird of Cairns and John Watstone.

1668, *Aug. 30*—This day Eupham Williamsone was put in the jogs and afterwards rebuked in ye face of ye congregation for her reflecting on Samuel Ker ane elder.

1671, *March 5*—The qlk day being the Sabbath after Mr John Colvil was buried, the collection was £1, 14s.

Mr Colvil married, 24th November 1665, Mary, daughter of Sir George Prestoun of Valleyfield, and died in February 1671, aged about forty-one years, leaving several children. His will is dated at Calder 1st March 1670, and contains the nomination of Sir George Prestoun of Valefield, his father-in-law, and William Prestoun, younger of Valefield, as tutors and curators to George, Marjorie and Anna, his younger children. His library was estimat at 2,500 merkis, and Mr Robert Prestoun of that ilk is cautioner. Alexander, his eldest son, was baptized 2nd October 1666; Marjorie, 2nd July 1668; George, 24th December 1669; and Anna, 25th December 1670. After his death

REV. JOHN SOMERVELL, A.M., also an Episcopalian clergyman, a graduate of Edinburgh in 1642, and a descendant in the fifth generation from the laird of Cambusnethan, was received and instituted to this parish by the Rev. John Mowbray, minister of Uphall, 16th May 1672. He seems to have taken special measures for restraining drunkenness, and also "the frequent and hainous sins of backbyting, revylling, flyting and slandering of one anoyr;" and it was during his brief incumbency that the present communion cups of the church were bought by the Session. He ministered here only two years, being translated to Cramond in 1674. He was a man of jacobitical tendencies and was deprived of his benefice by the Committee of Estates in 1689, for having "acknowledged that he has not read the proclamation nor prayed for King William and Queen Mary as is appointed therein, and that he would not undertake to give obedience." He died in poverty in London in 1691.

REV. NORMAN MACKENZIE, A.M., was the next minister of Mid-Calder. He was a graduate of Glasgow University in 1656, and previous to his induction here in 1675, he was successively parson of the parishes of Carsphairn and Whithorn in Galloway. We see little of interest in the events of his ministry until the year 1684, when a conventicle attended by about two hundred persons, some of them being in arms, was held on Sunday, 1st June, at Cairn-hill, and another at Caldstone Slap on the eighth of the same month. Rigorous but unsuccessful measures to apprehend the delinquents were put into execution by Thomas Kennoway of the King's Life Guards, in resentment of which and of other acts of oppression this gentleman was murdered by the Covenanters in the parish of Livingston on the 20th of November in the same year. The Rev. Mr Mackenzie continued to hold the cure until the Revolution, when, having prayed in the church of Mid-Calder for King William and Queen Mary, he was threatened by armed men and warned to desist, in consequence of which he applied to the Committee of Estates for protection, which was granted 8th May 1689. Notwithstanding this, he deserted his charge and became a brewer in Edinburgh, where he died 13th June 1701, aged about sixty-five. His wife was Mary Lundie, by whom he had a daughter, Anna.

On the Act of Toleration being published in Edinburgh, 5th July 1687, a general meeting of Presbyterians was held on the day following, at which

Mr Hew Kennedie, the deposed minister of Mid-Calder, was present, and choice was made of

REV. WILLIAM BURNETT, who was ordained minister of the parish by a committee of Synod on the 4th of November 1687, although it would appear that the Episcopal incumbent continued to hold the cure until 1689. No regular records of our church relating to this unsettled time were kept until November 1691, when Mr Burnett was acting and settled minister. In May following it is said that the late Walter Johnstoun in Calder having been Session Clerk for a considerable time *both at the meeting-house* and in this Kirk, and had not gotten anything for his pains, the Session thought fit to give to his relict £22, 4s. 8d. Scots. In various other entries at the same time allusion is made to the building and demolishing of the meeting-house in this parish, which appears to have been a chapel for the accommodation of the indulged Presbyterians, during the first two years of Mr Burnett's ministry, and perhaps also at an earlier period. John Pollock in Elderstoun was paid £2, 10s. for his service at ye building of ye meeting-house, and a bond of 100 merks was delivered to David Lindsay by John Telfer, servitor to my Lord Torphichen, "expressly for helping to build the sd. meeting-house, or failing of that to be employed for the use of the poor of this paroch." Then, in 1694, several entries occur relating to the disposal of money that was gotten for the timber of the meeting-house in this paroch. There is no indication of the exact position occupied by this sanctuary, but it may have been that the old chapel at Chapelton was put into repair at this time for the conduct of divine worship, because it appears from the following minute that action in this matter was taken jointly with the ecclesiastical authorities of West-Calder.

1695, Jan 13—Collected £3, 13s. 4d., whereof given to Richard Hamilton, mason in West-Calder, £3, 10s. as that which was agreed upon betwixt this Session and the Session of West-Calder, to be given to him in contentation for his work at the meeting-house.

On the establishment of Presbytery at the Revolution there was much difficulty in providing all the parish churches with regular ministers from the small number of Presbyterian clergymen available; and it appears that there was seldom service at Mid-Calder at this time oftener than once a fortnight, Mr Burnett being called to other places on the alternate Sundays. Occasionally his absence was of longer duration, as

1693, *Feb. 19*.—The minister having intimated to the Session that he was appointed by the late General Assembly to go to Aberdeine in order to preach ther for the space of sixe weeks, earnestly exhorted them that they would be mindful of the poor of this paroch in supplying them until it should please God that he returned.

A controversy which strikes us as rather trivial, but which was regarded as a very serious matter at the time, engaged the attention of the minister and elders for many months in 1695 and 1696. This was the aspersion not only in this, but in other neighbouring parishes, of a "scandalous and calumnious ryme made upon the members of this Sessioun," first found in the house of David Ffleeming in Balgreen, and whereof several got copies. Strict inquiry by the Session and Presbytery failed to elicit the authorship of the lines until in the latter-named year the said David Ffleeming presented his child for baptism, which the minister refused to grant until he should first make confession of all he knew in reference to "that ryme." Thus pressed David declared that to the best of his belief the verses were written by John Purdie, son of James Purdie of Hartburnhead. The following additional extracts from the records are illustrative of the manners and sentiments of this age.

1692, *July 31*.—The minister intimated from the pulpit that he was called to be at the West Kirk of Edinburgh, next Lord's Day, and exhorted them that they would be very careful of the Sabbath and repair to other adjacent kirks.

1694, *September 30*.—This day the minister advertised from the pulpit all heads of families within this paroch that they would not fee any servants without testimonialls of their good behaviour from the several places whence they cam, and if they did that such servants should be disowned as parochiners and denyed church priviledges. As also exhorted them all that they would behave soberly in time of Calder faire, abstaining from revelling and drunkenness which has been and is still the sin of this town and many others.

1694, *November 4*.—This day a proclamation was read for observing a day of thanksgiving for his Majesties safe return from Fflanders.

1695, *June 16*.—James Smith, an elder, having been directed to commune with Robert Grahame in Linhouse Muire, who hitherto never countenanced publict ordinances notwithstanding all the faire means used to gain him, reports that though what arguments he hath for defending his practice be very weak, unsufficient and unsolid, yet that he could gain no ground of him.

1698, *March 21*.—William Laurey and John Aikman, paupers, got nothing this day because it is reported that they keep not ye church.

1699, *October 8*.—This day 15 ounces of English uncurrent clypt money was sold by the Session for £45 Scots.

Mr Burnett ministered here for about nine years, being translated to Falkirk in 1696, and he died 18th December 1714. On 30th June 1696, he exhorted the elders of the Kirk of Calder that, seeing he is about to remove from this congregation, they would therefor be very carefull about the poor, and all other things incumbent to them in their stations ; after this he (as he was wont to do) closed ye work by prayer. After his removal, the parish remained for rather more than a year without a regular minister, when

REV. JOHN LOOKUP, A.M., was appointed, a clergyman of distinguished classical ability and with no inconsiderable share of literary attainments. He studied and was laureated at Edinburgh, 9th July 1694, and being recommended by the Principal of his University was ordained minister of Mid-Calder 26th January 1698. He is described as being of very diminutive stature, upon which subject he was sensitive. He had, however, a great idea of his own importance, and on all occasions set himself in opposition to the popular voice. The story is told that when a young man, he was introduced by Principal Carstares to Anne, Duchess of Hamilton, then residing at Holyrood House, with a view to his appointment as chaplain. The Duchess made some disparaging remarks about his appearance, which were accidentally overheard by Mr Lookup, and on its appearing that the remuneration proposed did not amount to more than £5 a year with bed, board, and washing, he immediately took his hat, and with more spirit than prudence, said to Her Grace that if such were her terms she must look for a lesser person even than him to fill the situation. On another occasion, his feelings were wounded by the wit of one of his brethren, also named John, and who, being a man of bulky proportions, was in the habit of remarking the difference between little John who "looked up" and big John who looked down ! This drew from Mr Lookup the following rather sharp and sarcastic reply.

Ego, Johannes Lukupeus,  
Quamvis parvus non pigmæus ;  
Orationem hanc concludo  
Virtus non est magnitudo.

The records relating to the period of Mr Lookup's ministry are well and regularly kept, being annotated by the minister himself. We gather

therefrom that the rein of ecclesiastical discipline, particularly as regards the Sabbath, still held the people with no feeble hand. In May 1698 two of the elders were appointed to go through the village after sermons and see that folk kept their own houses and wandered not on the Lord's day through the fields. Katherin Hamilton, a serving-maid, was punished in the year 1701 for drawing water for her master to drink between sermons, and James Garner, accused of boiling vegetables on a fast day, which he denied, was "exhorted to look better to his family, and see that *nothing be done*, either on Sabbath days or on other days set apart for solemn worship." About the same time John Aitken and his wife Sussana Kenedy having danced at their wedding, contrary to the minister's express orders, Mr Lookup preached a sermon on the subject, and an act was passed "discharging every one within this paroch to dance promiscuously at peny weddings or to sit tippling in aill-houses." It is mentioned that on the 18th of October 1719 the collection was given towards the building of Livingston church, then in course of erection.

1706, *May* 23, being a day appointed for a national fast on ye account of ye Treaty for an union betwixt Scotland and England, was observed by prayer and preaching.

It was during the ministry of Mr Lookup that the instance of unaccountable delusion already referred to occurred in the parish in 1720. The "Calder Witches" had again begun to trouble the neighbourhood, and as the family of Calder House had not escaped their malicious proceedings, the baron united with the minister in an attempt to extirpate them from the parish. Many unfortunate creatures in the village were arrested and thrown into prison, several of whom were brought to acknowledge their guilt, and that "they had done a great many mischiefs to several persons in Calder and the neighbouring parishes!" One of this unholy sisterhood, by name Ellen Fogo, and who is described as brutishly ignorant—"knowing scarce anything but her witchcraft"—acknowledged to having practised upon Lord Torphichen's son by her nefarious arts, and a solemn fast day was ordained to be kept in the parish on Thursday,



Fig. 42.—Signature of Rev. John Lookup.



14th January 1720. On the day preceding, the following minute occurs in the proceedings of the Presbytery of Linlithgow :—

The moderator, Mr John Lookup of Mid-Calder, represented that for some time bygone a most respectable family in his parish hath been infested with witchcraft ; that Mr P. their son has been sadly tormented, and that already a woman has confessed her sin of witchcraft, and that she has been active in tormenting the said child. The said family desires the help of the brethren's prayers both in public and private, and that a committee be appointed to meet at Mid-Calder for prayer and consultation on that head. Then the brethren entertaining a tender sympathy for the said family, the Presbytery appoints Masters John Brand, John Kinnaird, James Houston, John Brown, John Wilkie, and Robert Hunter to meet at Mid-Calder to-morrow with the moderator for that end ; and recommends to each of the brethren to put up their serious prayers to God both in public and in private in behalf of the said family and child, and that each of the brethren attend the said family as they shall be called.

To complete the assemblage of sages, William Mitchel, who is styled the "Tincklarian Doctor," sallied forth from his shop at the West Bow of Edinburgh, in order to exorcise the evil spirits at Calder. From his broadside *Strange and Wonderful Discourse concerning the Witches and Warlocks in West Calder*, we learn that "this horrible slave of Satan" had a son who died, and "when she was examined about the corpse of her child, she said the corpse were buried ; but the wright that made the coffin declared she put nothing but clouts therein. Yet at length she confessed that she gave the corpse as well as the soul to the devil, which he said he was to make a roast of." The superstitious Wodrow also made inquiries regarding the matter, and in a letter addressed to him by the Rev. John Williamson, minister at Musselburgh, the writer says, "The matter is not over ; many are still delated by the child. But some who have been of very intire fame being named, its suspected it may be one of Satan's stratagems to bring some innocent persons into suspicion among the guilty." This letter is dated 19th February 1720.

The sermon on the fast day was preached by the Rev. John Wilkie, Minister of Uphall, and was afterwards published. The text was "Submit yourselves therefore to God—resist the devil and he will flee from you ;" and the address, although tinctured in places with the prevailing credulity, is in the main a sensible discourse directed against superstitious influences and beliefs.

Mr Lookup died on the 1st November 1758, aged about eighty-four, having during the long period of sixty years ministered in the parish in holy things. He left in M.S., *Memorabiles temporum circumstantiæ, ac accidentia, quædam notanda, A Johanne Lukup notata*. In these notes are recorded many remarks on the great public events that occurred from the time of Charles II., 1684, until the Rebellion of 1715, together with observations on the seasons, etc.; the Latin is purely classical, and the writing exhibits a beautiful specimen of the penmanship of that age. His only published work was *Balm for the wounded spirit*, which made its appearance in the year 1719.

By his wife, Jean Huison, he had issue—John, born 1710; Andrew, born 1716; Margaret, born 1709; Isobel, born 1712, and Grisel, born 1720.

Upon his death

REV. JAMES WATSON was presented by Walter, Lord Torphichen, and admitted to the charge 18th October 1759. He was translated to this parish from the parish of Torphichen, where the strongest opposition had been raised by the people to his ordination, the settlement having been finally made upon an order of the Assembly by a riding Committee, under the protection of a military force. It appears that the parishioners "had nothing to object against the life, conversation, or doctrine, but that Mr Watson had not a voice equal to their congregation." The authority of the church courts having been thus vindicated, he was very shortly thereafter removed to Mid-Calder, where he ministered for thirteen years, without leaving behind him any evidence of unpopularity. He died 12th November 1772, in his fiftieth year.

REV. JAMES DOBIE, D.D., was next presented to the parish by James, Lord Torphichen, and was ordained 27th July 1773. He was twice married, firstly to Isabella Stoddart, whose son, James Dobie, was baptized in this parish, 15th April 1779; and secondly, he espoused Jeanna Henry, and had Henry, born 1783; William, born 1785; James, born 1786; and George Stoddart, born 1788, who died in the year 1864. The Rev. Mr Dobie was translated in 1792 to Linlithgow, where he continued until his death, 10th November 1826, in his eighty-first year. He published a sermon, preached after the death of Lord President Blair and Viscount

Melville. On his removal to Linlithgow, he was succeeded in the parish of Mid-Calder by

REV. JAMES WILSON, A.M., D.D., a native of Lanarkshire, but who had had a Presbyterian congregation at Stafford and at Stockport, and who was settled here on James, Lord Torphichen's presentation 20th December 1792. He was little more than a year in this parish, having been translated to Falkirk in April 1794. He contributed to Sir John Sinclair's work "Statistical Accounts of the Parishes of Mid-Calder and Falkirk," and was the author of several works, the most important of which is *The History of Egypt*, 3 vols. 1805; his publications, however, were all subsequent to the period of his removal from Mid-Calder. He died in 1829, leaving an only son, the Rev. Dr Wilson of Stirling.

Rev. JOHN SOMMERS, D.D., was the next incumbent, and was minister of the parish for upwards of forty-seven years. Licensed by the Presbytery of Dumbarton, 21st March 1791, he was presented by James, Lord Torphichen, in October 1794, and ordained on the 16th April following. He was possessed of considerable literary abilities, and was a man of extensive antiquarian research. He was proprietor of the *Encyclopedia Edinensis*, and edited the last three volumes, many of the articles throughout the work issuing from his pen. His *Account of the Parish of Mid-Calder* is quite the best, and indeed the only work devoted to the subject; it was originally written to form part of the *New Statistical Account of Scotland* published in 1845, but owing to the long delay in the completion of that work, and the additional matter which in the meantime had gathered round the little parish history, causing it to exceed the prescribed limitations, Dr Sommers had a small number of copies printed for private distribution in the year 1838. The work is now scarce—only five copies are at the present time known to exist in the parish. The degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon the Rev. Mr Sommers by the Glasgow University 15th May 1818, and he died 25th September 1842, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. He married 16th September 1811, Isabella Euphemia Hamilton, second daughter of Charles Donaldson, Esq., of Calcutta, who died 13th May 1821, leaving several children. Dr Sommers was succeeded in the ministry of the parish by

REV. WILLIAM WALKER, who was presented by James, Lord Tor-

phichen, in November 1843, and inducted to the charge before 31st March following. It was during Mr Walker's administration that the fabric of the church was restored and enlarged by the heritors of the parish, in the year 1863. On 29th December 1852 he married Anne, daughter of George Campbell of Prospect House, Newton-Stewart, by whom he has three sons, Thomas Charles, a physician in Liverpool; George Alexander, merchant in Buenos Ayres, and the Rev. William, missionary at Chacuba, Punjab, India; and he died on the 2nd of November 1882, in the eightieth year of his age, and the fortieth of his ministry, esteemed and regretted by a wide circle of parishioners and friends.

REV. MATTHEW GARDNER, the succeeding clergyman, was ordained to the charge 24th April 1883, and after ministering here for rather more than ten years was translated to the parish of Peebles in the month of September 1893, when he was succeeded in the charge by the Rev. David John Porteous, the present incumbent.

In a schedule of churches attached to the abbey of Dunfermline in the 13th century the church of Caledour is taxed 40 merks; and the rectory of Calder Comitatus is valued at £10, 13s. 4d. in the Tax Roll of the Archbishop, anno 1547. At the epoch of presbyteries, the parish was united to the Presbytery of Linlithgow and Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale; but in the year 1884, upon the initiative of the late minister, in conjunction with the minister of West Calder, these two parishes were disjoined from the jurisdiction of the presbytery of Linlithgow and united to that of Edinburgh—a step rendered highly convenient by the increased facility of communication with the metropolis since the days of railways.

Mr Spottiswood, the first minister of Calder of the Reformed Church, received as stipend for Calder Comitatus in 1570, £68, 8s 5d, two bolls bear and ten bolls oats, with eleven merks for Calder Clere. The house of Greenbank, to which allusion has already been made, was erected by him and by his son and successor John, Archbishop of St. Andrews; and it served the clergy as their official residence in the parish until about the year 1640. At that period a regular manse was erected nearly opposite the church, upon the bank between the roadway and Murieston Water, where a collection of some ten or a dozen houses, denominated Sandilands,

stood beside the old ford which gave access to Calderwood. Some accounts relating to the building of the old manse are preserved in the Session's records, which also shew that Mr Hew Kennedie, minister in April, 1645, suited for £457 Scots debursit be him upon the building and repairing of the manse hous, due to the minister and his successoris, and that over and above the sum of sewin hundreth merkis bestowit yrupoun of befoir. The little hamlet of Sandilands, if it may be dignified by the name, was demolished together with the manse in 1806, when the new avenue to Calder House was constructed; and the glebe, which extended to eight acres of very excellent land, was at this time exchanged for 43 acres 1 rood of land of a quality proportionately inferior, situated about a mile west of the village, upon which the present manse and offices were erected in 1807. An extension of the premises was executed by the heritors in 1863.

On the erection of the parish of West Calder in 1647 the teinds were allocated, 1250 merks being assigned to Mid-Calder and 850 merks to the new parish. The local stipend and provision of the kirk of Calder Comitis was declared at this time to be 1200 merks with 50 merks for communion elements, and a tack-duty payable by Lord Torphichen of £20 Scots, four kyne and a horse's grass in the wood of Calder, together with the manse and glebe.

The patronage of the church belonged of old to the lords of the manor and was transferred by Duncan, Earl of Fife, to the monks of Dunfermline about the year 1160. In 1552 John Sandilands, fiar of Calder, cedes to James Sandilands, his apparent heir, the lands and barony of Calder, with advocation of the churches and chapels therein, which was confirmed by James VI. in 1567. Twenty years later all ecclesiastical advocation and superiority was assumed by the King, and, although in a charter to James Sandilands, 4th March 1600, "patronage of the parish church" is specially included, yet it appears that the advowson was exercised by His Majesty in this parish until the year 1617. In 1637, John, Lord Torphichen, was served heir of his father in the barony and patronage of Calder church, since which time the right of presentation has been uniformly exercised by his lordship's representatives. James, Lord Torphichen, had a charter under the Great Seal of the lands and barony of Calder, with advocation, donation and right of patronage of the kirk

and parish of Calder 2nd June 1817. Upon the division of the parish in 1647 Lord Torphichen continued patron of both charges until 5th March 1692, when he transferred the advowson of West Calder, along with many lands in that parish, to Thomas Marjoribanks of Balbardie. And on 14th April 1785, James, Earl of Lauderdale, was seized of the patronage of the church and parish of West Calder, upon a disposition of the same by Alexander Marjoribanks of Marjoribanks.

## UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The history of this body in the parish dates from the year 1761, when a number of the inhabitants of the district, whose custom it had been to attend the ordinances of the General Associate Church at Craigmillen, Linlithgow, and at Nicolson St., Edinburgh, petitioned the Presbytery to be erected into a separate congregation, with a place of worship at Mid-Calder. In the Presbytery record, 1st June, 1761, we see it appointed "that Mr David Robertson, instead of preaching at Eastbarns next Lord's day, do supply for Mr Cunningham that day at Calder;" and in the baptismal register of the church, 18th January 1763, "all these children were baptized at *Bridgend*," which seems from the first to have been the place of meeting of the Seceders. During these years it is probable that Divine worship was conducted in the open air, but, upon their being organised into a separate congregation, the adherents applied themselves to the work of erecting a meeting-house; and accordingly we find a disposition dated 7th February 1763 of "all and haill that part of the lands of Pumpherstoun called the Bridge-haugh with the brae at the west end thereof, and the little haugh at the foot of Powie's path," which makes mention of the meeting-house intended to be built at the North Bridge, on the foresaid land. The work of building seems to have been in progress in 1763 and 1764, and the structure was apparently completed and opened for public worship in 1765,—that being the date which was inscribed upon the sole of one of the windows.

On 31st December in the last-mentioned year MR WILLIAM M'GEORGE, probationer, was called to be the first regular minister of the congregation; he had formerly belonged to the parish of Urr, in the

Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, and entered in 1761 the Divinity Hall of the General Associate Synod and was duly ordained to this charge on the 11th June 1766. He was much esteemed as a preacher both by his own congregation and generally in the locality, and was the consistent advocate of civil and religious liberty; he died 3rd July 1799 in the fifty-sixth year of his age and the thirty-fourth of his ministry. By his wife, Margaret Beverly, he had the following children—Elizabeth, born 1782; Alexander born 1784; Beverly, born 1787; Jane, born 1789; Ebenezer, born 1795; and Margaret, born 1798.

The REV. ALEXANDER DUNCAN, D.D., who had previously been connected with the Anti-burgher church at Nicolson Street, succeeded Mr M'George in the pastorate. He studied four sessions at Edinburgh University, and at the close of the third proceeded, in 1795, to the Divinity Hall of the Anti-Burgher Synod, and after receiving license from the Presbytery, was unanimously called to Mid-Calder on the 24th December 1799, and ordained minister 8th April following. For the long period of forty-four years Dr. Duncan exercised his sacred calling in the parish, and was highly esteemed both as a pastor and preacher, whilst he also took a somewhat prominent part in the various questions affecting the welfare of the Secession Church at large. Most important amongst these was the re-uniting of the two main branches of the body, which had its birth in the parish of Mid-Calder, having originated, as we are informed, with William Matthewson, one of the elders of the congregation at Bridgend. This union was carried into effect in the autumn of the year 1820, and so came into existence at that time the United Secession Church. Upon that occasion Mr. Duncan was entrusted by the Synod with the preparation of a statement or "Testimony" of the principles of their church in a doctrinal point of view, the task of producing an historical outline being assigned to the Rev. Dr. Stark of Dennyloanhead. On the extension of the Theological Faculty in 1834 Mr. Duncan was elected Professor of Systematic Theology, but exchanged this chair for that of Pastoral Theology, which he occupied during nine years. He was author of a *Disquisition on the Lord's Supper*, an *Essay on the Being of God*, and several other works, and was an extensive contributor to the denominational Magazines, and to the *Encyclopædia Edinensis*. He was

also a man of distinguished classical attainment, and was engaged during a considerable period in revising a translation of the New Testament Scriptures into Hebrew for the London Society for the Conversion of the Jews; his literary talents received suitable recognition by the University of St. Andrews, which conferred upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity in November 1842. He died on the 10th November 1844, in the sixty-seventh year of his age, and the forty-fifth of his ministry. His wife was Elizabeth Hogg Morison, a daughter of Mr David Morison, minister of the Gospel at Morebattle, whom he married 9th July 1801, and with whom he had a family of six sons, who all became ministers.

The third pastor of the Secession Church was the REV. ANDREW DUNCAN, fifth surviving son of the preceding incumbent, who was called in July and ordained September 1842, as colleague and successor of his father; and he died in the month of January 1894, having for a period of upwards of half a century been officially connected with the congregation. In the year 1847, in common with their co-religionists throughout Scotland, the congregation at Mid-Calder adopted the new title of United Presbyterian Church, upon the completion of the union of the United Secession and the Relief Churches. Up to this time the original building, erected in 1765, though somewhat modified and altered internally at various periods, and provided in 1816 with galleries, continued to serve the congregation as a meeting-house. In the spring of 1854, however, the structure being considered insecure, it was taken down, and the foundation stone of the present erection was laid on the 12th of May in that year. During the rebuilding, the worshippers were accommodated in the parochial schoolroom belonging to the Established church—an obligation which they returned some ten years later, when the parish church was undergoing alterations, by placing their meeting-house at the disposal of the Established congregation at a certain hour on Sundays. The new building was opened on the 29th October 1854, and the present U. P. manse, on the south side of the Almond, was completed in the summer of 1865; the original house, which was occupied by the Secession ministers for one hundred years, though it has ceased to be the manse, is still standing in close proximity to the church. In January 1874 the REV. WILLIAM DUNCAN, a nephew of Mr Duncan, was unanimously called to be his colleague and successor, and



was ordained on 17th March; he was translated in November 1882 to Maryhill Church, Glasgow, and was succeeded in the collegiate charge by the REV. GEORGE CRAWFORD, previously of Govan, who was junior minister here for three years. Mr Crawford having resigned in 1885, he was in turn succeeded by the REV. R. L. BROWNING, A.M., a graduate of the University of Glasgow, the present minister of the United Presbyterian church.



Fig. 43.—Communion Tokens, U. P. Church.

Two old communion tokens of the Associate church of Mid-Calder are here engraved, one of them bearing the initials of Mr William M'George, the first regular pastor, and the date 1767.

#### FREE CHURCH.

There is no Free Church in Mid-Calder, those of the inhabitants who belong to that persuasion attending the ordinances at Livingston or Wilkieston.

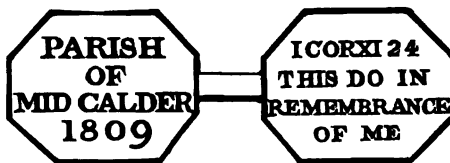


Fig. 44.—Communion Token of Mid-Calder Parish Church, 1809.

#### ECCLESIASTICAL RECORDS.

The registers relating exclusively to this parish are those of births, marriages, and deaths,—or, more properly, baptisms, marriage proclamations, and funerals,—which are now in the possession of the Registrar-General in Edinburgh; and the record of other transactions of the Kirk-Session, in the custody of the Session-Clerk at Mid-Calder.

The register of baptisms commences in the year 1604, and, with the exceptions here indicated, it is complete until the present time; the mothers' names are not recorded in the entries until after 1707. The register is blank from July 1649 till August 1651; also from February 1661 until 1663; and from May 1674 until October 1707.

The marriage proclamations are intermixed with the baptisms from 1604 till 1674, after which a separate register has been kept. The breaks in the continuity of the record are from July 1649 to November 1659, which is blank; and from May 1674 till October 1691. The record is also defective between 1720 and 1783, although entries relating to proclamations have been transcribed from the Books of Deaconry for the period 1720-1760, and likewise notices of irregular marriages, 1789-1819.

Deaths—entries of mortcloth dues and funeral expenses have been transcribed from the Books of Deaconry between 1734 and 1819. The proper register of deaths commences only in 1783, and is continued until 1837, after which it is blank until 1855, when compulsory registration of all births, marriages, and deaths became law.

The Books of Discipline, containing a record of all acts of Church discipline exercised in the Session, notices concerning the appointment of Ministers, the election of Elders, Acts relating to parish affairs, Testificats received and granted, as well as sundry accounts of penalties, collections, and disbursements, are preserved from January 1604 until the present day, with the following exceptions:—the register is blank from August 1649 to August 1651; from September 1656 till February 1663; also between June 1673 and November 1691; and from May 1706 until 1714.

The Books of Deaconry consist of accounts of sums received from collections, baptismal and proclamation fees, mortcloth and bell dues, with disbursements for behoof of the poor, and other charges. The record commences in 1691, and is consecutively preserved since that time. The distinction between this and the preceding register is not, however, very strictly observed, acts of discipline being occasionally entered here, whilst details of receipts and expenditure frequently appear in the Books of Discipline.

The leaves of several of the earliest volumes have suffered from damp, and are partially decayed. The registers are most copiously and regularly

kept during the period 1640-49, when Allan Tennent was Session-Clerk. The following extracts may be of interest; the first explains the deficiency which occurs throughout the whole series between 1649-51 :—

1653, *March* 3—This day Mr Samuel Wright compeared befor the Session, who declared, after thair demanding the minuts of the Session during his service from him, that they wer left in a tronck in Samuel Johnston's [house] and were lost wpon the English comin, wherefor the Session was exceedinglie displeased.

1698, *October* 9—Reported that Mr Robert Henry, sometime schoolnaster, has still refused to give up the records of the Session. Therefor recommends it to John Dick to cause cite the said Mr Robert before ye sharrive for that effect. The volumes were restored on the 23rd of the same month.

1699, *September* 3—The Session considering that the bell is toled to every one's buriall without any emolument either to ye poor or to ye officer, ordains that each shall pay to ye poors box an half merk, and to Robert Ker our officer, fourty pennies, who causes tole the bell to their friends buriall. Closed with prayer.

The following is a list of the Elders of the parish in the 17th century, whose names appear in the registers—

- 1604. Mr Jhone Broun, bailie of Calder.
- 1604. James Douglas of Nedder Houdun.
- 1607. Jhone Jhonstoun, notary publict.
- 1612. Jhon Douglas, collector.
- 1618. Jhone Inglis.
- 1621. Abraham Stevinson, *ordained* 12 Aug.
- 1621. Joseph Douglas of Baddis, *ordained* 12 Aug.
- 1621. John Sandilands in Dedrig, *ordained* 12 Aug.
- 1621. James Flint in Nether Alderston, *ordained* 11 Aug.
- 1626. Mr Patrick Kynloche of Alderstoun.
- 1635. John, 4th Lord Torphichen.
- 1635. The laird of Herdmanschiels [Hermand].
- 1635. William Douglas of Pumpherstoun.
- 1635. The laird of Selmes.
- 1635. Sir Wm. Ross of Murieston.
- 1635. Mungo Lockhart of Harwood.
- 1640. Mr Wm. Sandilands, Tutor of Torphichen,
- 1644. Gavin Anderson.

- 1644. John Ker.
- 1644. John Stevenson of Herdmanshiels.
- 1644. John Purdie in Hairtburnhead.
- 1644. James Wallas in Cleutheid, *ordained* 24 Aug.
- 1645. John Hamilton of Grange.
- 1645. Mr James Kynloche of Alderstoun.
- 1645. Gawaine Vernor [in Dedridge].
- 1648. John, 5th Lord Torphichen.
- 1648. Samuel Johnstone, notary.
- 1652. John Welsche.
- 1652. James Aikman.
- 1652. John Anderson [in Skivo].
- 1652. Thomas Livingston [in Howatstoun].
- 1652. William Ramsay.
- 1652. John Cranston.
- 1652. Alexander Gowans.
- 1653. Samuel Ker.
- 1663. Walter Lord Torphichen, *ordained* 24 Dec.
- 1663. James Smith in Nether Alderstoun, *ordained* 24 Dec.
- 1663. James Gilbert in the Craig, *ordained* 24 Dec.
- 1663. John Bryce in Over Howdane *ordained* 31 Dec.
- 1664. John Gray, *ordained* 3 March.
- 1665. John Mickle, *ordained* 30 July.
- 1672. David Ker in West Kairns, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. James Fairer in Over Williamstoun, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. William Line in Pumpherstoune, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. John Rule in Aldirstoune, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. David Aikman in Dresseridge, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. Thomas Hamilton in Herperrige, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. John Lowrie in Williamsoune, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1672. John Aikman in Sandagait, *ordained* 17 Nov.
- 1691. William Listoun [of E. Colzium].
- 1691. James Inglis.
- 1691. Walter Johnston, writer, Session Clerk.
- 1691. John Aikman.

- 1691. Robert Aitkin.
- 1691. Wm. Ffiniston in Binnarflatt.
- 1691. Wm. Auld.
- 1691. John Dick, treasurer.
- 1691. James Masson.
- 1691. William Ffulton.
- 1691. Thomas Livingston in Houatston.
- 1699. Mr John Mitchell of Alderstoun, *ordained* 29 Jan.
- 1699. Hendry Loch in Houetston, *ordained* 29 Jan.
- 1699. Henry Jameson, in Walkmyln, *ordained* 29 Jan.
- 1699. William Clerkson in Wester Mooriston, *ordained* 29 Jan.
- 1699. Robert Murray in Balgreen, *ordained* 5 March.
- 1699. William Aikman in the Wodhouse.

## CHAPTER VI.

### The Religious House of Torphichen.

THE establishment of which we are here to give some brief account was situated, not in the parish of Mid-Calder, but at a distance of about seven miles therefrom in the upland district between Bathgate and Linlithgow. Any connection which we can claim with the religious foundation at Torphichen resides merely in the fact that the noble family of this parish is the successor in title of the old ecclesiastical Lords St. John of Torphichen. But, however slightly connected with the immediate object of the preceding chapters, the attractiveness of the subject in itself, and the small share of attention which seems to have been bestowed upon it as regards Scotland, perhaps afford an excuse for the following contribution, detached and incomplete though it be, towards a history of the Holy Order of Military Ecclesiastics, who had their chief seat at Torphichen.

The Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, or Knights Hospitallers, as they are generally termed, formed one of those powerful orders of religious knighthood arising out of the Crusades which came to exercise a far-reaching influence over the history of all Europe. The story of their origin is that they came into existence as a charitable confraternity during the latter part of the 11th century, when certain pious merchants of Amalfi, in the kingdom of Naples, having been permitted to sojourn at Jerusalem, built there a house for the reception of travellers and pilgrims, to which they added a chapel, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. Near to this they subsequently erected two hospitals for the accommodation of the sick and poor, with a chapel attached to each, dedicated respectively to S. John, the charitable patriarch of Alexandria, and to S. Mary of Magdala. At the siege of Jerusalem, in 1099, the Hospitallers rendered valuable aid and so procured the countenance and favour of Godfrey. Their ranks

were swelled by the crusader knights, and their revenues by large grants of lands and other privileges. Under Raymond de Puy they were instituted a military order, without, however, relinquishing the charitable duties which they had previously undertaken ; and this was confirmed by Pope Pascal II. in 1113. The knights were tonsured, and their habit consisted of a long black tabard, worn over armour, with a white cross on the left side. To the three-fold vow of religion, namely to poverty, chastity, and obedience, they united the practice of other heroic virtues of a warlike kind, and played a prominent and most useful part in the times in which they lived. Pope Boniface confirmed the rules of the order, and granted the brethren permission to bear the title of Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

In the year 1312 it came about that the Knights Templars—a rival Order, having however much the same ends in view as the Hospitallers—fell under the displeasure of Philip of France, who invoked the aid of Pope Clement to suppress the Society, and the Templar Knights were for many years thereafter persecuted all over Christendom.

Upon the re-occupation of Syria by the Saracens the Hospitallers took possession of the island of Rhodes, whence the title at one time applied to them, “Knights of Rhodes.” Being expelled from that island by the Turks in 1522, they received an asylum at Malta, which was granted to them by Charles V., and here the Grand Master of the Order had his residence until by the reformation of religion in the 16th century their history as regards our own country necessarily ceases.

The brethren were established in Scotland very shortly after the foundation of the Order, and Torphichen seems to have been from the first their principal seat. We have no doubt that the settlement was originally patronised by David I., and General Porter in his elaborate work on the *Knights of Malta* tells us that this monarch established the Preceptory at Torphichen shortly after his accession to the throne in the year 1124. He looked indeed with such favour on this institution, as well as on that of the Temple, that the author of the *Book of Cupar* has recorded that Sanctus David de præclara militia Templi Hierosolomitani optimos fratres secum retinens eos diebus et noctibus morum suorum fecit custodes. By him and his successors various possessions and privileges were bestowed

upon the brethren, who, moreover, were freed from most of the imposts levied upon the laity. The earliest charter we have been able to find is one of four charters narrated in a confirmation by James IV., and it appears to have been granted in the first year of Malcolm IV.'s reign—namely the year 1153.

This charter is dated at Brechin in the episcopate of Bishop Sonsan, and by it Malcolm concedes to God and the Hospital of Jerusalem, for the salvation and welfare of his ancestors and for his own welfare, unum plenarium toftum in quolibet burgo totius terre sue, to be held by the brethren as well and freely as they already held their eleemosynary grants. The second charter is by Alexander II., and confirms to the friars all gifts of lands, men, tenants and alms previously made to them, as well in churches as in other privileges and worldly possessions, with jurisdiction of sok and sac, thole and theme, infangtheif and bludewitis, and all other free customs, quit of toll and secular service.\* Dated at the Castle of the Maidens (Edinburgh Castle) 30th June in the 17th year of the King's reign, being the year 1231. The third charter is also by Alexander II., dated at Strivelin, 12th July 1236. By it the King grants to the Blessed Mary and to the brethren foresaid, for the love of God and the soul of David King of Scots, as also for King William's soul, father of the said Alexander, all gifts, etc., granted by him and his predecessors in times past, with liberty of sok and sac, thole and theme, infangtheif and outfangtheif, girthbrekin and bludewite, flemgirth and murthure, in all times past and to come. By Alexander III. new benefactions were also made, and he

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\* These obsolete terms of villenage have never perhaps been explained in a manner which can be regarded as altogether satisfactory. Liberty of *socca* and *sacca* in a charter is supposed to confer upon the grantee the right of judging in litigious disputes, within his barony. *Thole* is a Toll—a right to exact customary duties upon goods passing through one's lands; and *Theme* is explained as warranty, a word which has a great variety of meanings in connection with old forms of process. Power of *Infangtheif* is understood to imply the right to condemn and execute a thief, when taken only, as we say red-handed, that is with the theft actually in his grasp—in his fang; *outfangtheif* infers a wider jurisdiction extending to the condemnation of the thief, upon evidence adduced, after he have parted with or disposed of the subject stolen. *Bludewite* means assault and battery to the effusion of blood; and the word *girthbrekin*, which occurs a little later in the text, seems to imply the offence of breaking through the girth or ring which encircled the sanctuary ground adjacent to the knights' establishment—hence violating the protection which the Church had power to afford to fugitives.



commands that the friars shall have and hold all possessions and almsgifts as freely and quietly as they were granted to them by his illustrious father King Alexander, and further cedes to S. John and the brethren all fines and amerciaments imposed within their jurisdiction by the King or his bailies, declaring that if any friar should himself be fined by civil authority he shall be quit for one ell of his scarlet alb or cassock. This is dated at Scone, 17th January 1283-4. The four charters above specified were confirmed by James II. at Stirling, 7th May 1448; also by James III. at Edinburgh, 21st February 1482; and lastly by James IV., as a singular and special favour to his knight and counsellor William Knollis, preceptor of the said house of Torfichen, his treasurer, 19th October 1488.

Archibaldus, Magister de Torphichen, is a witness to a charter of Alexander, Great Steward of Scotland in 1252; and in 1264 there appears an entry in the Exchequer Rolls remitting a fine due by the Master of Torphechin. During the troubled time which succeeded in Scotland, when the power of England was paramount, Sir William Wallace had his residence at the preceptory for some time previous to the battle of Falkirk, as an existing charter shews dated apud Torpheichyn xxix. die Martii, anno gratiae millesimo ducentesimo nonagesimo octavo [1298]. Sir Alexander de Welles, Prior of Torphichen, swore fealty to Edward I. in company with the greater part of the Scottish nobles and barons in 1296, his name occurring in the Ragman Roll as 'Gardeyn de l'Hospital de Seint Jehan de Jerusalem en Ecoce;' and he fell at the battle of Falkirk, fighting on the English side, in the month of July 1298. We have seen it stated that Edward I. had also at one time his lodging within the walls of Torphichen Preceptory, and, from precepts which he issued to the sheriffs to restore the property of the Order, the knights appear to have considerably extended their original possessions, so that even at this early period they had estates in almost every county in Scotland, excepting Argyll, Bute and Orkney.

1296, *September 3*—The Sheriff of Stirling is commanded to give to the Master of the House of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem of Torphichen three oaks fit for timber in the forest of Kilroy.

In the year 1304 there is a petition to King Edward I. by the Prior and brethren of the hospital, "that their English brethren in Scotland

may be received when necessary in the castle of Linlithgow, only two leagues from Torphichen;" and five years later Friar Henry de Peremort, Hospitaller, Master of Torphichen, had an order for the payment of 44s., the value of victuals bought from him for the pele of Linlithgow.

The suppression of the Knights Templars in 1312 tended greatly to augment the power and influence of the Knights of St. John. By a canon of the Council of Vienne and a bull of Pope Clement, the whole lands and possessions of the Templars in Scotland were conferred upon the rival order of Knights Hospitallers; and the ranks of the latter were swelled by the Templars, who thus found an asylum from the persecution to which they had been subjected. Not only also did these new territorial acquisitions retain their former designation of temple lands, but the same name came in time to be applied to the original possessions of the Hospitallers—a circumstance which has caused considerable confusion in attempts to discriminate between the lands of the two orders. The knights, thus augmented and consolidated, rendered good service to their country at the battle of Bannockburn, and Radulph de Lindesay is mentioned as Preceptor of Torphichen under Robert Bruce.

William de la More is said to have been Prior of Torphichen in the reign of David II.; and in the archives of the Order preserved at Malta Edward de Brenne is named principal and Receiver-general of Scotland in a bull of the Grand Master, dated at Rhodes 5th June 1386, granting to Richard de Cornel a lease of the lands of Torphichen, vacant by the death of David de Marr. A similar bull of Philibert de Naillac, the succeeding Grand Master, at Rhodes 24th July 1410, grants the bailliage of Scotland for five years to John de Bynnynghe, he being bound to pay certain specified responsions. Sir Alexander de Lichtoun, knight, prior of the house of Torfychyne, witnesses a charter of Sir William Douglas, Earl of Angus at Aberdeen 28th May 1422; and Friar Andrew Meldrum is mentioned as Master of Torphichen in 1438 and 1443. Contemporary chroniclers and later historians have alike left untold the fact that the heart of James I., like that of his great ancestor the Bruce, was removed from his body before interment and carried on a pilgrimage to the East. But the Exchequer rolls inform us of the arrival in Scotland about 1443 of a

Knight of St John, bearing from Rhodes the heart of King James, which was presented and exhibited to the Carthusian monks of Perth, no mention however, being made of its final place of deposit. To the military knight who came on this errand £90 were paid from the customs of Edinburgh, and £1 towards his expenses from the customs of Perth.

Andrew Meldrum appears to have been succeeded in the office by William Meldrum, who was summoned to Rhodes 9th January 1452-3 to account for his mal-administration. In another bull of date 24th November 1454, he is styled Preceptor of Torphichen.

Sir Henry Livingstone was Preceptor of the Order under James II. He is stated to have been of the family of Kilsyth, and he died in 1463. He was succeeded by Sir William Knollis, who was nominated Prior of Scotland by the Grand Master Orsini 22nd December 1466. At this time Patrick Scougall, administrator of the Preceptory since the death of Sir Henry Livingstone petitioned the Council to be preferred to the dignity, asserting that Knollis had been unjustly appointed in his place.

The Council decided against him, but granted him an indemnity dated at Rhodes 3rd September 1473. Sir William Knollis filled the important office of treasurer to James III. in 1468-70, but he ultimately joined the party who hunted down that monarch to his unhappy end. On the accession of the new King he was appointed to collect the royal revenues in Linlithgowshire; was made keeper of Blackness Castle and of the Palace of Linlithgow; and again held the office of treasurer from 1488 until 1492, when he was succeeded by the Abbot of Cambuskenneth. In the year 1489 he is first styled William, Lord St. John, a dignity conferred upon him and his successors in the preceptorate of Torphichen by James IV., by whom he was much employed in the public transactions of the period. His nephew, Patrick Knollis, was his coadjutor in 1500, it being declared that his uncle was incapacitated by age and infirmities from the discharge of his duties; and on the death of Patrick, Robert Stuart D'Aubigny, a nephew of Lord Bernard D'Aubigny, was nominated to be coadjutor by bull dated at Rhodes 17th March 1501-2. Sir William Knollis resigned the preceptorate in favour of Sir George Dundas in 1504, and although he

is usually stated to have fallen at Flodden, the records of the Order shew that he was deceased before the 24th June 1510.

Of his successor, Sir George Dundas, it is said that he was the fellow-student at Paris of the celebrated Hector Boethius, and that he was distinguished for his learning. He was appointed preceptor 1st July 1504, and there are many notices of him in the Acts of the Lords of Council and Session, in June 1515, when Alexander Stewart, postulate of Inchiffray had intruded himself in the Preceptory of Torphichen, notwithstanding that Sir George Dundas is lawfully promoted to the same; and the curse of Rome was accordingly launched against the said Alexander, and against Patrick, Abbot of Cambuskenneth, who had supported him. In 1517 George, Lord of St. John, pursued Mr. Patrick Knollis, son of the deceased William, Lord of St. John, for wrongous detention of forty oxen upon the lands of Fallowis, belonging to the knights; and on 7th October in the same year he signs and seals a treaty with England. About 1521 the Lord of St. John had a remission of customs of 8 lasts of salmon, extending to £19, 4s., exported yearly by him from Aberdeen "on the account of grand master at Rhodes." George, Lord of St. John, is still mentioned in 1531, and he died before 6th March, 1532-3 when Sir Walter Lyndsay was nominated Preceptor of Torphichen. This was the 5th son of John Lyndsay, justiciar of the north of Scotland, a descendant of the noble house of Crawford and Lindsay. He is referred to by Sir David Lindsay of the Mount in his "Testament of Squyer Meldrum" in the following laudatory terms:—

The wise Sir Walter Lindsay, they him call,  
Lord of St. John and Knight of Torphichen  
By sea and land a valiant capitane.

He was received into the Order by Turcopolier William Weston, 31st December 1525, and was afterwards appointed *Grand Prior* or *Preceptor* of the Hospital of St John, and as such granted several charters between 1533 and 1540 to which Friar Phillip de Villers Lisleadam, *Master* of the said Hospital, assents; we are therefore to suppose that the terms preceptor and master were not synonymous, but signified different offices. Sir Walter Lindsay was one of the Lords of Council in 1540, and attained to the distinction of being Justice General of Scotland; he died between 1543

and 1547. The following example of his signature is taken from a Tack of the lands of Auldlistoune in favour of George Inglis, dated 26th January 1533, and preserved in the Alderston charter chest. A



Fig. 45. Signature of Sir Walter Lyndsay, Lord St. John.

seal is appended to this document exhibiting what appears to be a knight in armour, with a legend which is, however, quite illegible. It has usually been said that this Preceptor died in 1538, and that date certainly appears upon a fragment of his sepulchre which is preserved in the ruins of the preceptory (Fig. 46). This inscription however, if really carved at that date, must clearly have been executed during his lifetime. We have seen an original charter signed by him and dated at Torphichen 20th September 1540; and in his work *Cunninghame Topographized* Mr. Pont mentions several charters of tenements in the burgh of Irvine, granted by Walter, Lord St John, and dated at Edinburgh in the year 1543. On the other hand, James Lindesay, son natural of *the late* Walter, Lord St. John had letters of legitimation from the Queen, 20th January 1546-7.

Sir James Sandilands, the succeeding preceptor, was the second son of James Sandilands of Calder, and we have already had occasion to notice the principal events of his career (see page 66). He was constituted Prior of the Order of St John in Scotland by a bull of the Grand Master d'Omedes, dated at Malta 2nd April 1547; embraced the Protestant faith at the Reformation, when the Society over which he presided was suppressed in this country in common with all similar religious institutions. The temporal possessions of the House were bestowed upon Sir James Sandilands, Lord St John, who agreed to pay to the Crown 10,000 crowns of the Sun therefor, and a yearly rent of 500 merks for ever. By his successors they were all gradually alienated, excepting the lands lying immediately adjacent to the ruins at Torphichen, which have descended regularly in the family of Sandilands, and to which the title of Lord Torphichen adheres. The baronies which belonged to the institution at the time of its suppression were those of Torphichen, Listoun, Balin-

trodo, Thankertoun, Denny, Maryculter, Stanehoip and Galtua, with ecclesiastical patronage of Torphichen, Temple, Inchmachten, Maryculter, Tulloch, Aboyne and Kilbartha. In addition to the above there were many other lands and tenements which were sold by James, the 2nd Lord Torphichen of the name of Sandilands, in 1599, to Robert Williamson of Murieston and James Tennent of Linhouse. In 1604 Williamson became the sole proprietor and afterwards sold the major portion of the estates to Sir Thomas Hamilton, subsequently Earl of Melrose and Haddington, for whom these lands were erected into the barony of Drem by an Act of Parliament dated 1614. This barony was disentailed about the middle of the 18th century, and having passed through the hands of several proprietors has now become dormant if not extinct. The barony of Balintrodo, which included the whole of the present estate of Arniston at least, was conveyed by James, Lord Torphichen, to Sir James Dundas, the founder of the distinguished house of Arniston in the year 1609.

Of the Preceptory itself, sufficient remains to indicate its former position if not its entire dimensions, and a better example of the intermingling of ecclesiastical and domestic architecture could scarcely be found. "The first sight of the great massive tower," says Mr Macgibbon, "would lead one to suppose it to be the remains of some old baronial keep, and it is only when the traceried windows and the surrounding churchyard come into view that one perceives the true character of the building. Its design is thus so far appropriate as the church of a great military society, and has altogether the stern aspect one would expect, knowing who its builders were." The structure is said to have consisted of a nave about 112 feet long, transepts and choir, but it has suffered so much from time and more ruthless destroyers that the central tower and the north and south transepts are all that now remain. In the position of the nave, a plain modern erection of about the size and appearance of an ordinary barn serves the purposes of a parish church; but there are indications on the ancient building shewing where the roofs of both nave and chancel have met the central tower, as also of an aisle on the south side of the nave. From these appearances it is evident that the transepts were higher, externally, than the main portions of the building, and they contained an upper floor which was devoted to living apartments. So recently as the year 1760 there

existed also a building of considerable dimensions and unknown antiquity, adjacent to the north transept, with which it communicated by means of a doorway which is now walled up. This building is traditionally reported to have afforded accommodation for the knights when their numbers had increased beyond what the church itself could contain. The oldest work now existing in the structure is a circular arch with its shaft and hood mouldings, which occupies a position in the wall vail, dividing the transepts from the nave. These details are transitional in character and probably belong to the latter part of the 12th century; it is evident however that, like the carved stones which are to be seen in the same wall, this arch is not in its original position, but has been built into the wall at some period. The transepts are of 15th century work, and the two traceried windows are of pure gothic design. The roof is vaulted, composed of three bays, and in the central dome the key of the vault itself consists of an horizontal circle of masonry, held in its position at a height of thirty feet above the floor by the mutual pressure of the vaulting, the effect being rather striking. The four piers which support the central tower also exhibit a certain amount of architectural grace, and at the north-west angle of this tower a spiral stair gives access to the chambers above. The stair is comprised in a round turret situated in the angle formed by the nave and the north transept—round, that is to say, on the inside, but the turret is polygonal exteriorly. An ancient baptismal font or receptacle for holy water remains in the south transept, and, beneath the sole of the window there is a canopied recess in which tradition asserts the dead were laid during the funeral mass. It has however been pointed out that the length



Fig. 46. Portion of Monument of Walter, Lord St. John, 1538.

of this recess is only 5 ft. 11 in. which would be too short for a man stretched out in death; it is therefore probable that it may have been used or intended for the effigy of some person buried within the church. Within the circular arch already alluded to, two horizontal slabs have been built into the wall, which have evidently once formed part of the tomb of

Sir Walter Lindsay. The lower slab represents a human skeleton entwined with serpents and hair flowing from the skull, whilst a fish crosses one foot and passes beneath the other. The inscription round the carving is embarrassed by several abbreviations ; it may with difficulty, and perhaps also some uncertainty, be read thus *WALTERUS LYNDESAY JUSTICIARIUS GENERALIS DE SCOTLAND AC PRINCIPALIS PRAECEPTOR TORPHICHENSIS, 1538.*

The other slab has at one end what appears to be a skull with formal flowing locks, then a stem with leaves, two crossed objects like weavers' shuttles, a heart-shaped figure with leaves, two swords and a battle axe crossed and two entwined fish with beaked mouths.



Fig. 47. Another carved panel.

The whole fabric of the church seems to have been built upon oak piles driven into the marshy soil to form a foundation. Portions of these piles, rendered impenetrably hard by the antiseptic qualities of the morass, have from time to time been dug up in excavating for graves. The vaulting is still in good order, especially in the north transept, where it is remarkably clean and sharp. That in the south transept, is in a less satisfactory condition, particularly at the south-east corner, where the angle buttress is evidently too slight for the thrust. The foundation appears also to have subsided, so that the walls are considerably out of the perpendicular, and but for the iron tie-rod above, this portion of the edifice would doubtless have been in ruins.

Like many other ecclesiastical buildings, the Preceptory of Torphichen possessed the right of sanctuary. In the churchyard is a small square stone resembling a common milestone with a St. John's cross carved in the top, and similar stones are found at the distance of a Scots mile therefrom as nearly as possible in the direction of the four cardinal points of the compass, namely at Lochcote, Westfield, Craigmartin and Couston. Within the limits thus enclosed a temporary protection at least was afforded to fugitives from justice or private resentment. But from the



following notice it may be questioned whether these refuge-grounds really afforded such extensive privileges as has been supposed :—

1531, *March* 28—Robert Manderstoune, James Mechell and William Hutoune, accused of the murder of James, Abbot of Culross, were *acquitted*—"wherefore they were restored to the privilege of the sanctuary of Torphiching by the Justice General, and judicially delivered to George, Lord St. John, Master of the said sanctuary." Others found guilty of the crime were executed.

A writer on the subject, in referring to the closing episode in the history of the Knights of St John, remarks—"At the same time, the same fate befell the Teutonic Knights; but instead of giving birth to a Torphichen family as in Scotland, the successors of the Templars in Germany founded the Prussian Kingdom," and laterly the German empire. In conclusion it may be added that the Order was suppressed in England by Henry VIII., whose pious zeal was so conspicuous in that direction. It was restored by Mary in 1557, and finally suppressed by Elizabeth in 1559. And thus ended a very gallant Order of vowed and consecrated warriors, many of whose exploits shed a lustre upon the darkness of the middle ages like the path of a meteor through a midnight sky.



Fig. 48.—Signature of Sir James Sandilands, Lord St. John, the last Preceptor of Torphichen, 6th May 1554.



Fig. 49.—Ruins of Torphichen Priory, from SE.



## Appendix.

THE following is the Text of an "Obligation" to build and complete the Parish Kirk of Calder, as it is recorded in the Transactions of the Lords of Council and Session, 13th February 1541-2. (Acta. Dom. Conc. et Ses. XVIII; fo. 24.)

Obligation by James Sandelandis of Calder, Knight, and John Sandielands fear of Calder his son and apparent heir in consideration of the sum of 1600 merks having been paid to them by "ane venerabill Clerk Maister Petir Sandelandis" uncle to the said James and parson of Calder, "to big and compleit the revestre of the parochie Kirk of Calder with ane watter tabill at the heich that it is now under the thak Inlikwise with ane wther watter table abone the thak on the est gavill of the queir weill pendit in half round to the said queir vnder the said tabill inlikewise weill thekit with thak stane and sall rais abone the said tabill in the eist gavill of the queir and abone the turnegres and the tabill thairof tua lichtis als fair as thai may be had efferand to the heicht of the queir and abone the watter tabill abon the thak of the revestre and thre penis thairof to ryse cunteranis of buttreis vpoun the said eist gavill and thre penis thairof and the remanent of the said queir to be endit of the lenth and widenes as it is foundit and in heicht fra the sollis of the said queir duris to the vnder pairt of the watter tabill vnder the thak thairof xxxij futtis and the south thre lychtis in the sydevall of the said queir betuix the foure buttreis to ryse as thai ar foundit als heich as thai may be had in the pend of the said queir efferand to the heich foirsaid And the saidis buttreis to be compleit & endit as thai ar now foundit And the north turnegres in the west pairt of the north sydevall thairof to be tane away and the said north wall to ryse xvj futtis of heicht as it is foundit roucht werk with corbellis and watter tabill on the vthir pairt thairof for ane closter and fra thine vp efferand to the heicht of the said queir aislar werk and the said queir to be compleitlie pendit with croce brace and rinruif conforme to Sanct Anthonis yle in

Sanct Gelis Kirk And at the west end of the said queir forgane the south west buttreis to rais ane substantialious wall roucht werk sevin fut of breid from ilk sydewall with ane brace to be raisit thairein als heich as it may be had To serve the west gavil of the queir with hewin aggernis and abone the said brace in the forsaid west gavill sailzies to be laid and ane stepil to be raisit quhareupoun viii futis of breid and lenth or vj futis braid and xij futis lenth within the sidewallis of the said stepil quhilk sidewallis salbe of vj futis of heich abone the queir thak at all partys with lychtis at all partis for the sound of the bellis in the said stepill to be persit for the orlage hand and bell in place maist ganand and convenient thairto And in the north angell betuix the foresaid wall vnder the grete brace and north wall of the Kirk syd to rais ane commodious turngreis to serue the end loft of the said kirk and stepil foresaid als esaly as it may be had Item to big ane Kirk on the west part of the said queir nixt the said brace contenand in lenth iiij<sup>xx</sup> of futis and xxviiij futis braid within the wallis respective of rouch werk and the wallis thairto to be four futis thik and xxvj futis heicht fra the sole of the durris to the vnir part of the watter tabill of the syd wallis with four buttreis on ilk syd of the said Kirk eslar werk efferand to the queir and four lychts to be biggit in the southsyd wall of the said Kirk of x futis of wydnes and als heich as thai may be had squair lintalit efferand to the said heicht and in the south wall of the said Kirk betuix the twa buttreis to be biggit ane honest dur with ane plain proch with sege stabill on ilk syd thikyt with thak stane and ane honest dur in the west gavill of the said Kirk with ane lycht abone the samen in myd gavill xij futis of breid rysand of heicht in poyntcast als heich as it may be had efferand to the heicht of the gavill with sufficient mygallis in all the lychtis of the said Kirk and queir with plane substantialious cornettis of stane or irn quhilk salbe thocht maist ganand in the lychtis raisit of poyntcast And to put in ilk lycht of the wyndois grete lokartis of Irne for binding of glas thairto And inlikwis to put grete crukis in the said Kirk durrys as efferis and the said haill kirk to be pendyt and weill thekyt with thak stane and the watter tabill of the sid wallis of the said Kirk and queir to be larger of sailze betuix buttreis and buttereis and in ane caisment hevin for leid to be lad thairin to schout the watter by the wyndowis of the said Kirk and queir to the angellis nixt the buttreis and ilk buttrice of the foirsaid Kirk and queir to haif ane honest fiall and the alter of the queir to be biggit

of aslar werk and the haille queir to be weill pavit with greis befor the said alter and vtherways as efferis with tua halie watter fattis weill hewin to the said Kirk and queir and the fairsaidis Kirk and queir to be biggit and completit in maner fairsaid That is to say the said queir within the space of thre zeris nixt after the dait heirof and the said Kirk within the space of vthair thre zeris nixt and immediatlie thairafter." And the said John Sandelandis binds himself to pay an annualrent of 20 merks to a chaplain to be named by him for doing of mass and divine service within the said Kirk to be taken by them out of the whole lands and barony of Calder and mylnis thereof. Dated at Edinburgh 30th January 1541. The witnesses are : Mr Robert Galbraith, parson of Spot ; Mr John Skrymgeour of the Myris ; Friar Andrew Carnys, warden of the Grey Friars of Edinburgh ; and Patrick Dischintoun, son and apparent heir to William Dischintoun of Ardros ; and others. James Dundas of that Ilk, and John Cokburne are sureties. The Obligation is presented for registration by the said James Sandelands, John Sandelandis, James Dundas and John Cokburne.

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ABSTRACT OF A VALUATION ROLL OF THE PARISH, COMPILED IN THE  
YEAR 1726.

Heritor.	Lands.	Yearly valued rent. <i>Scots Money.</i>
Lord Torphichen	for the Barony of Calder	2847 18 6
	Divided thus—	
	Calder, Williamston, Contentibus, &c.	£1464 2 8
	Craigs . . . . .	308 14 10
	Dedridge . . . . .	285 15 0
	Camilty . . . . .	139 7 8
	Easter Murieston and Cockrig . . . . .	135 4 6
	Wellheads . . . . .	125 17 4
	Dressilrig and Sandygate . . . . .	103 19 0
	Wester Murieston . . . . .	100 0 0
	Haymains . . . . .	70 8 6
	Powbeath . . . . .	61 3 8
	Langside . . . . .	32 3 0
	Camilty Mill and Mill Lands . . . . .	21 2 4

Heritor.	Lands.	Yearly valued rent. <i>Scots Money.</i>
Alex. Muirhead	for the Barony of Linhouse . . . .	£615 11 6
	Divided thus—	
	Linhouse, Skivo and Ballgreen . . . .	£324 13 4
	Over Williamston and Blackhall . . . .	128 11 6
	Nether Alderston . . . .	102 6 8
	Dyck, or Wester Dressilrig (Westfield) . . . .	60 0 0
		<hr/>
Mr John Mitchell	for the Barony of Alderstoun . . . .	613 0 0
	Divided thus—	
	Alderston, Crofthead, Brucefield, &c. . . .	£364 0 0
	Easter Cairns . . . .	85 10 0
	Wester Cairns and Wester Colzium . . . .	81 0 0
	Easter Colzium . . . .	50 0 0
	Wester Causeyend . . . .	29 10 0
		<hr/>
John Hamilton	for Pumpherston . . . .	406 13 4
Jas. Oswald	for Letham . . . .	285 0 0
Mr Alex. Dalglish	for Houatston . . . .	164 0 0
Abr. Pargillies	for Nether Howden . . . .	120 0 0
Alex. Thomson	for Ingliston-Bevelaw (Harperrig) . . . .	86 0 0
James Scott	for Howden . . . .	80 0 0
Wm. Elphinston	for Greenbank . . . .	32 13 4
		<hr/>
		<u>£5250 16 8</u>

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Page 67, line 18, *for* "about 1517," *read* "before 1510."

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